Whispering Hills News

A Community of Neighbors

Serving the Residents of the Whispering Hills Neighborhood FEBRUARY 2026

Interested in Neighborhood Social Clubs?

From Maija Wallace, WHNA Social Chair

We'd love to grow more ways for neighbors to connect! If you're interested in starting or joining a social club—such as a book club, game club, garden club, or a senior ladies chat group—please reach out to WHNAsocial@whnadallas.com.

We already have a ladies Mahjong Club that typically meets on Sunday evenings, and new members are welcome—contact us if you'd like to join. There's also been interest in organizing a progressive dinner, so let us know if that sounds fun to you.

Finally, we'll soon begin planning for the spring egg hunt, and volunteers to help with prep are very welcome. If any of these ideas interest you, we'd love to hear from you!

WHNA Social plans through April

2/21 (Sat) Neighborhood Desert Out - **Braum's** 1:00pm
518 Centennial Blvd, Richardson
RSVP at: https://evite.me/ssAffNJ3GG

3/24 (Tues) Dine Out - **Lakewood Brewing** 6:00pm
2302 Executive Dr. Garland
RSVP at: https://evite.me/H38n7yGryU

4/11 (Sat) Egg Hunt - **Friendship Park** 10:30am

Events Are Open to All WHNA Neighbors

Watch for event update/change emails on:
whnacommunications@gmail.com.
You need to request to be added if you are not already receiving messages from WHNA

Forestridge Names Teacher of the Year

We are proud to congratulate Special Ed. Teacher, Michelle Ishizuka, on being named Forestridge's Teacher of the Year! This recognition reflects her dedication, passion for teaching, and commitment to student success. We are grateful for the positive impact she makes on our campus each day.

Changes for Voting in the Primaries, or with Mail-In Ballots

Don't Let Changes Keep You From Voting

Submitted by Mike Gorman

You can vote early at any early polling place. However, on election day YOU HAVE to vote in your specific precinct. If you are registered, you should have received your new voter's card at the end of January showing your precinct. Or, go to www.dallascountyvotes.org/voters/ Your precinct number may be different from your neighbor's.

In the past, if you previously used a mail-in ballot, the county would automatically mail you a ballot. No more. If you wish to vote by mail in the upcoming primary election (March 3), you must request an application for a ballot by mail. You have to fill out a new request for 2026. To obtain the application, you can call the Elections Dept, download and print it from their site, or email your request to: evapplications@dallascounty.org More details at the Dallas County Elections Dept. website at:

www.dallascountyvotes.org/vote-by-mail

Also...The Postal Service announced that a piece of mail may not always be postmarked on the same day that it takes possession of it. Sooo...that means that, even if a voter delivers their ballot to the Postal Service by Election Day, it may nevertheless be rejected if it is not postmarked that day. Voters who mail their ballots on Election Day can still try to ensure that their ballots will count by bringing it to a post office and requesting a manual postmark indicating when it was dropped off. Use your phone camera to take a shot of the piece of mail with the postmark.

Don't wait until Election Day to mail your ballot!!

Will You Have a 2026 Graduate in Your Family?

The June issue of the WHNA News will feature graduates in the neighborhood. If your family's graduate would like to be included, send a picture, name of school, plans after graduation, etc. to either:
Sonia Harms at: WHNAnewsletter@whnadallas.com
or
Helen Meyer at: WHNAnewsfeatures@whnadallas.com

WHNA Board & Committee Chairs

NEXTDOOR NETWORK:
nextdoor.com
WEBSITE:
www.whnadallas.com
WHNA MAILING ADDRESS:
10323 Cimmaron Trail
Dallas, TX. 75243

2026 Board Members:

President
Regan Paulsen
WHNApresident@whnadallas.com

Vice President
Davene Morgan
WHNAvicepresident@whnadallas.com

Secretary
Kinzie Russell
WHNAsecretary@whnadallas.com

Treasurer/Website
Cynthia Houck
WHNAtreasurer@whnadallas.com

Member-at-Large
Mike Lanham
WHNAmemberatlarge@whnadallas.com

Past President
Keli Kincaid
WHNApastpresident@whnadallas.com

Committee Chairs:

VIP /Crime Watch Coordinator
Mike Gorman
WHNAvipcoordinator@whnadallas.com

Newsletter
Sonia Harms, Editor
WHNAnewsletter@whnadallas.com

Helen Meyer, Features
WHNAnewsfeatures@whnadallas.com

Social
Maija Wallace
WHNAsocial@whnadallas.com

Parks/Recycling
Carol Tobias
WHNAparks@whnadallas.com

Grounds and Improvements
Alan Ravkind
WHNAgrounds@whnadallas.com

Membership Drive Coordinator
Erik Russell
WHNAmembership@whnadallas.com

2026 WHNA Board Members

President Regan Paulsen First year



Moved into the neighborhood with husband, Jonathan, and their corgi, Jack, in 2018. Has a 2-year-old son, Woods, and a daughter, Morgan, due in June. She grew up in Carrollton, Texas, and Jonathan in Aledo, Texas. They met at The University of Oklahoma marching band where Jonathan played trombone, and Regan, clarinet. Is a counselor in private practice specializing in OCD and anxiety treatment. Hobbies include sewing, crafting, and playing musical instruments.

Vice President Davene Morgan Year 5



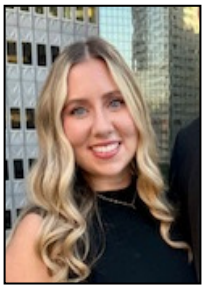
Grew up in a small town southwest of San Antonio. Moved to Dallas after graduation from Texas A&M. Has lived on Deermont Trail since 2005. Works as an architect specializing in programming and planning of healthcare facilities. Hobbies include walking her dogs, gardening, putting together puzzles, and reading. WHNA concerns include reducing the speed of traffic along Whispering Hills and Deermont Trail. Uses her gardening expertise to enhance and maintain our south entrance.

Treasurer Cynthia Houck Year 8



Grew up in Kentucky. Has lived in Texas since 1981 and in Whispering Hills since 2001. Worked as an administrative assistant at Procter & Gamble for thirty years. Dances with the Shufflin' Shoes Cloggers and is Queen of the Big D Re-Gals Red Hat Society chapter. Hobbies include reading and crochet. Joined the Board to use her skills for the benefit of the neighborhood. Feels that WHNA is our voice to the city, and the voice of a neighborhood association is much more powerful than individuals' voices.

Secretary Kinzie Russell First year

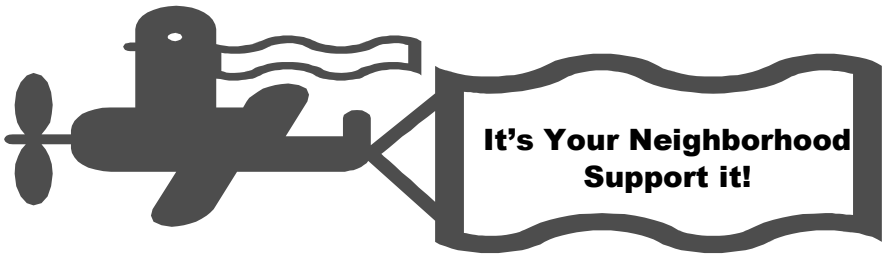


Grew up in Wichita, Kansas, and moved with her husband, Erik, to Whispering Hills in 2021. Is a proud mom to two daughters, Charlee (3), and Scottie (7 months). Attended the University of Kansas. Currently leads a team of physician recruiters at AMN Healthcare. Hobbies include working out, yoga, and hosting family and friends. Is excited to be part of WHNA and looks forward to helping build an even stronger, more connected community!

Member-at-Large Michael Lanham Year 2



Resident at 10135 Deermont Trail since May of 1977. Former President of WHNA in the '80's. Worked for the City of Dallas City Manager's office - 1975-81, serial entrepreneur starting several companies & 2 IPO's. Retired from CFO of an education nonprofit in Richardson. Wife, Joan, (deceased) helped start the neighborhood Babysitting COOP and the Vegetable COOP. Is happy to be re-engaging with the WHNA. Two daughters went to Jess Harbin, Hamilton Park, Liberty & Berkner. Likes biking, all sports, & travel.



Summary of January WHNA Board Meeting

Eleven people attended the January Board meeting. (FYI: You do not need to be a member to attend the meeting and share your concerns or take part in discussions.)

Treasurer and Crime Watch reports were presented. Social Chair, Maija Wallace, reported on the volunteer dinner and announced the February Dine-out to be held at Braums with the theme, "Love Your Neighbor," and that the egg hunt will take place at Friendship Park on April 11.

There was discussion about Mike Gorman and Maija getting together to plan a National Night Out event on a day different from the official NNO. Maija will broadcast the information and get Mike some strong young men to help with set-up.

President, Regan Paulsen, reported the results of her WHNA survey. There were twenty-eight responses. She proposed setting up agendas for the rest of the year and choosing one item from the survey to discuss at each meeting so that people can attend meetings that interest them. The problems of speeding on Deermont and the alley behind Cimmaron will probably be the first item we'll tackle.

Kinzie Russell has volunteered to serve as Secretary. Thank you, Kinzie!!

It's been decided that AI will be used to record the meetings, and AI will write a synopsis. Kinzie will review the AI synopsis for accuracy.

Planned Board Meeting Discussion Topics Based on Results from the Survey Sent Out Earlier

February 2/10 Deermont Thru Traffic

Speeding and heavy traffic flow through to Garland via Deermont have created safety issues. Anyone with knowledge or evidence of the fence that used to exist on Deermont is encouraged to attend. We are hoping to create a task force to look into solution.

March (3/10) Walls and Perimeter Barriers

We will address the condition of the existing walls around the neighborhood. A task force is needed to establish a plan for maintenance.

April (4/14) Social Events

Switching to a lighter topic, we'll look at the current successes of our social committee and ways to expand social engagement that are sustainable. We are not lacking great ideas for inclusive social events in this neighborhood! Additional volunteers are needed to set them in motion.

A Message from WHNA Membership Chair



Hello Neighbors,

My name is **Erik Russell**, and I'm proud to serve as the **Membership Chair for the Whispering Hills Neighborhood Association**. My family and I have called Whispering Hills home since **March 2021**, and we absolutely love this community.

Our Neighborhood Association exists for one simple reason: to make our neighborhood the best it can be. When you join, you're helping us:

- **Enhance safety** through neighborhood watch programs and communication.
- **Build community** with events that bring neighbors together.
- **Beautify our neighborhood** with landscaping, maintenance, and improvements.
- **Protect property values** by keeping our area well-maintained and inviting.

Membership is an easy way to invest in the place we all call home. The annual membership fee is modest ($50), but if you're able and willing, **donations above the minimum are always appreciated**—they go directly toward projects that benefit everyone.

Join WHNA at whnadallas.com-- and let's keep Whispering Hills a safe, welcoming, and beautiful place in which to live.

Thank you for being part of what makes this neighborhood special!

Warm regards,
Erik Russell

WHNA Board/Community Meetings and Events

WHNA usually holds its Board meetings the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 8:00pm in the Liberty Jr.High Library.
Any resident of Whispering Hills is welcome to attend.
Enter at the east side of the building.

Announcements of meetings and events are sent via Email.

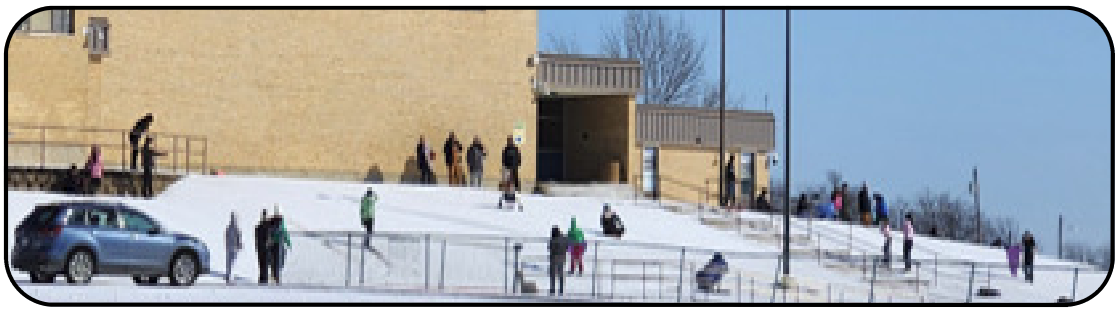
if you want to be added to the contact list, let Cynthia Houck know at:
WHNAcommunications@gmail.com
Add that address to your email address book so messages don't go to spam.

Our Unusual Winter Weather Provided Great Sledding

Pictures by Helen Meyer and Emily Stephens



Neighbors of all ages delighted in the sleet-covered Liberty Jr. High hills that were transformed into a winter wonderland! Over 40 kids, at times more, slid down the hills using anything that worked: sleds, wood pallets, cardboard, sheets of plastic, lunchroom trays and even laundry baskets. The group on the right side of the building was observed forming a long train going downhill.





















Little Sleetman added some fun, and attracted curious dog, Mercy.



This guy tried sledding down the steps!



Crime Watch Annual Report for 2025

From Reports byMike Gorman's at the 01/13 Board Meeting

WHNA Activity

- Serious Criminal Activity (Murder, Assault, Kidnapping, Sexual Assault, Burglary, Robbery Etc.) for WHNA was down 50% from 3 for 2025 versus 6 for 2024.
- Reports by residents were up by 73 from 142 for 2024 to 215 for 2025. This could be a good thing that more residents are willing to report to the VIP Coordinator.

Flock Security Cameras Connected to DPD Fusion Center

- Our District 10 Council Member working with DPD was able to get 4 Flock cameras placed around the Walnut Street and Audelia Rd. intersection. Business owners on three corners added their own Flock cameras on their property.

Volunteers in Patrol Crime Watch Programs

- VIP Membership has dropped over the last several years since COVID and the previous police administration moved the NPO program from division control to headquarters control. New DPD chief has moved it back to division control.

WHNA Residents Crime Watch Commenter's Program

- During the middle of 2025, the WHNA VIP Coordinator instituted a program to get more residents involved in reporting any suspicious activity or persons and receiving VIP information. Long-Term residents and others verified by long-term residents were invited to be added to an email list. This group has begun to communicate and comment on report information.

Volunteers in Patrol Activity Time for a "Safe Neighborhood"

- 41 WHNA volunteer residents reported 3,506.75 activity hours during 2025 to help keep Whispering Hills Safe.

Alert.....If the Fire Dept. comes by and a car is parked by the hydrant, there's a $250 fine.

Passed on by a neighbor who
talked to firemen checking a hydrant by her home.

Report Stolen Mail

A neighbor whose mail was stolen has been instructed by the Mail Police Department at USPS to have everyone affected submit a report at 877-867-2455 and choose option 3

City of Dallas Emergency Management Alert System

The City of Dallas is committed to the safety and well-being of our residents. The DallasAlert program is an emergency notification system developed to enhance the ability of the City of Dallas to provide public safety related notifications to residents and businesses during emergencies.

DallasAlert is an opt-in only system. In order to receive alerts from DallasAlert via text, phone and email, you must register.

To sign up, text DALLAS to 67283. Or visit DallasAlert.com

Crime Stats
December 7 - January 31

Submitted by Mike Gorman

Random Gunfire	4
Suspicious Vehicle	4
Mailbox Tapering	3
Suspicious Person	1
Drug Possession	1
Property Damage	1
Suspicious Activity	1

Help Keep Tabs on Crime in the Neighborhood

Report any suspicious or criminal incidents, whether reported to DPD or not, to:

WHNAvipcoordinator@whnadallas.com

Listing of active Crime Watchers reporting as of 12/31 of each year.

Year	Reporting VIPs
2015	21
2016	25
2017	29
2018	35
2019	39
2020	43
2021	45
2022	39
2023	38
2024	38
2025	34

Currently Active Trained VIPs as of end of 2025, and year VIP course taken.

Year Active	No.
1995	1
2010	2
2012	1
2013	2
2014	6
2015	7
2016	5
2017	5
2018	6
2019	5
2020	6
2021	2
2022	0
2023	1
2024	1
2025	1

We want Whispering Hills News to be about you and news you'd like to share. Send your ideas and suggestions to:

WHNAnewsletter@whnadallas.com

CLASSIFIED ADS

This is a service for resident WHNA members.

Send name, address, phone, and email, along with ad copy, to:
WHNAnewsletter@whnadallas.com
Limit ad copy to 25 words or less. No graphics.

PARK CITIES POWER WASH

Power washing, Soft washing
Window cleaning, Gutter cleaning
5-star rated. Insured
214-390-3377 Doug@parkcitiespowerwash.com

NEED PET CARE?

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

SPRINKLER REPAIR

20 years experience and Texas licensed irrigator
Happily serving my Whispering Hills neighbors
Call/Text Henry 469-207-6825
SurgicalSprinklerRepair@gmail.com

MARY KAY Independent Beauty Consultant

Wendy Phynes-Jennings, Star Team Builder
Inspiring Women's Lives--I bring beauty to you.
Website: marykay.com/wendyphynesjennings
Email:wendyphynes12@gmail.com
972-679-0570

Did You Know....?

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

Electronics should NOT be placed out for bulky trash. Take them to the Collections Center noted on the back page.

Glass and mirrors break and should also not be placed on the curb. Please clean up broken pieces so that walkers and pets do not get injured.

Love Letters to Neighbors

We LOVE our street, and have connected in some way with almost everyone. Definitely hope to meet more in this coming year. Of special note is our neighbor, Miss Tricia, who makes a point of picking up small crafts for our girls to do. She has them over, makes special time for them, reads, plays, lets them help her water plants, and more, going out of her way to think of them and things they might enjoy. She's been a special blessing to our family, and we love her!

The Edokpayi Family

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Earlier this year, my neighbor noticed that I hadn't been spending as much time out and about as usual. She brought me a pair of earrings that she found at a market as a pick-me-up. I hadn't personally noticed a change in myself, but her gift was a good reminder for me to check in with my own mental health -- and that people care about me.

--Anonymous

Send Comments About Your Experience Living in Whispering Hills or Things a Neighbor Has Done For You to:
WHNAnewsletter@whnadallas.com

Check Out Events at the Dallas Public Library

Go to:
https://dallaslibrary.librarymarket.com/events/upcoming

A Dallas Library card is required. Here's how to get one if don't already have one:
dallaslibrary.org/services/library-card

If you'd like to see newsletter pictures in color, go to whnadallas.com and click on Newsletters

WHNA Appreciates Its Volunteers

Photos by Carol Tobias



Lauren and Kevin Haseltine family



Mary Alice and Ken Willis

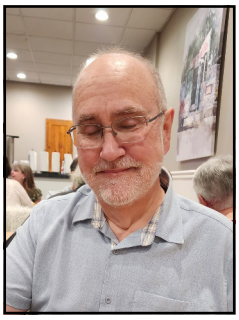
Thank you! Thank you! to the volunteers that helped in myriad ways to help keep the Whispering Hills area a pleasant place to live, by helping with gardening jobs, distributing newsletters, keeping an eye out on the neighborhood for suspicious and criminal activity, planning and setting up social events, and, of course being willing to take on leadership positions on the WHNA Board. All volunteers were invited to enjoy dinner at Rockfish restaurant in January.



Randy Meyer, Rich Harms, Yusuf Tadia, Helen Meyer



Carol Tobias



Joe Grigalunas



Reagan Paulsen



Maija Wallace & Quentin Guillet family, Davene Morgan



Daryl & Rebecca Roberts; Kinzie & Erik Russell families



Alan & Judy Ravkind, Cynthia Houck, Sonia Harms



Terry and Kim Skinner



Watch for reminder signs posted on Whispering Hills on the Thursday before pick-up week.

NEXT PICK-UP WEEKS BEGIN:

February 23 and March 23

(always the 4th Monday week, not the last, week of the month)

Set trash out on curb beginning Thursdays

February 19 and March 19

BEFORE 7am on the Monday of pick-up week.

Separate bulky trash from brush.

No glass, electronics, or garbage

Get the 2026 schedule, and reminder texts, at: dallascityhall.com/sanitation

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

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

Call 214-553-1765 for hours of operation.

What Goes into the Blue Bin?

NO Garbage or Yard Debris

ONLY The Items Listed Below

(Do Not Put Items in Plastic Trash Bags)

Glass Bottles and Jars--**NO** window glass, light bulbs, fluorescent tubes, ceramics, mirrors or Pyrex

Plastics--containers (rinsed) labelled #1-5 & 7 (found at the base of the container in the recycling emblem) **NO** plastic grocery bags (take those to the grocery store). **NO** plastic wrap, plastic utensils, chemical containers or Styrofoam

Metals--steel, tin and aluminum **(cans) NO** foil or foil containers used for baking; no electronics or toys

Paper Products and Cardboard--newspapers, books (both paper and hardback) magazines, catalogs, envelopes, food and detergent boxes, paper egg cartons, 1-pack drink cartons, cereal boxes, folded corrugated and cardboard boxes

NO food contaminated boxes, or plastic or foil-lined boxes. **NO** shredded paper

Order new or replacement roll carts at: dallascityhall.com/departments/sanitation

WHNA WHISPERING HILLS
A Community of Neighbors

2026 WHNA Membership Form

2026.JF.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 (Minimum Donation) (tax deductible) Additional Donation: $____ (Crime Watch/VIP, Admin. expenses, Other _____) (tax deductible)

I would like my information to be included in the 2026 membership directory (circle one):

YES NO

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 ☐ 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. (PayPal auto renewal available.)

2026 Membership Period—January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026