



# The Hockaday Herald

Official Newsletter of Hockaday Neighborhood Association Inc.

Spring, 2015

## President's Message



Dear Neighbors,

Happy Spring! We have had quite the change in scenery in our neighborhood following the two snow events and record rainfall. Walking just a month ago on our snow covered streets, I

enjoyed the glistening trees, snow people and forts. And now, we are seeing some of the most gorgeous spring blossoms in years! And while there is no official traffic counter, by view from my home office window and daily walks through the hood, it seems we also have quite a few new puppies and babies that have sprung up since the fall!!!

I am excited that our first neighborhood event of the year is right around the corner. The annual Backyard Treasures Tour is on Sunday, May 3. This is our one event of the year that takes place throughout the neighborhood. Whether you hike or bike, venture out on your own or grab some friends and tour as a group, this is a fun way to get a peak of unique and pampered places. And, you will bump into folks you may not have seen since the Fall Picnic! You may even get a few new ideas for your own retreat!

As we wrap up 2015 Registration and the Membership Directory is in production, I am thankful to report our strongest year ever, with close to 300 HNA members, and 175 ENP subscribers. We all want a connected, neighborly and safe place to live. With a strong membership base, we can continue providing timely information and enhancing and expanding our activities, including special interest groups like our Moms with Young Kids. And, with a broader ENP base, we are able to expand patrol

hours to help sustain the level of safety we have come to expect and appreciate. I encourage you to reach out to me, your block captain or any board member with suggestions, ideas or questions to make our great neighborhood even better!

*Susan Parker*

susan@separker.com  
214-366-0495

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## Virtual Annual Meeting Reflection

All feedback was positive on HNA's first ever "virtual" annual meeting late last year. All items—minutes, financials, slate—were unanimously **approved**. Expect the same format for 2015 if all agenda items are routine.

## HNA Purpose

*To promote and advance the common good and general welfare of Hockaday Neighborhood's residents and surrounding community, including the beauty, safety and stability of the Neighborhood, while fostering civic engagement, neighborliness and pride among the residents.*

## 2015 HNA Events

May 3 (Sunday), 3-5 p.m.  
Discover Backyard Treasures



July 4 (Saturday)  
Annual July 4 Parade & Celebration



October—date TBA (a Sunday)  
Annual Fall Picnic



November (details TBA)  
Virtual Annual Meeting



## Welcome New Neighbors!

**Carolyn & Allan Maly**  
4236 Northview

**Amanda & Allan Miller**  
4418 Goodfellow

**Ann & James Myhre**  
4344 Cedarbrush

**Carolyn & Bryce Schneider**  
4206 Alta Vista

**Autumn & Shane Schnitzius**  
4210 Cedarbrush

*We are thrilled to have you in the 'hood  
and look forward to getting to know you!*

*Submitted by Cindy Sands,  
Welcome Director*

## HNA Plans 3rd Annual "Discover Backyard Treasures" Tour



"Discover Backyard Treasures"

Sunday afternoon  
May 3<sup>rd</sup>  
3:00 - 5:00

Tour six backyards in the 'hood, get to know your neighbors and get some cool ideas! The forthcoming event flyer—to be delivered to your door—will include full details including the tour map. Don't miss this much-loved event!

Coordinators:

**Suzanne Horne**

214-906-3307, [thasuz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:thasuz@sbcglobal.net);

**Peggy Reppe**, [plreppe@tx.rr.com](mailto:plreppe@tx.rr.com)

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## HNA 2015 Directory at the Printer

Membership Director **Courtney Joyner** reports the 2015 HNA directory has gone to the printer. Once a proof draft has been approved, directories will be printed and delivered to HNA members via our Block Captain network, so look for those in April!



## Newest HNA Member!



**Patrick James** joined the **Dru & Amanda Guillot** family on February 25<sup>th</sup>, weighing in at 7 pounds, 3 ounces.

**Got news?** Please share! Send to [martyforte@sbcglobal.net](mailto:martyforte@sbcglobal.net), or contact us via our website:

[www.hockadayneighborhoodassociation.org](http://www.hockadayneighborhoodassociation.org).

## 'Hood Oncor Alert

*Reported by Connie Campbell*



Oncor has alerted us that tree trimming and vegetation management is underway in our area. Oncor has hired five different tree service contractors to assist: **Wright, Nelson, Asplundh, ABC, and Davey**. Should you have specific questions, contact Oncor at **800-518-2375**. Additional Oncor resources: **Oncor.com, stormcenter.oncor.com, Texting OUT to 66267, askoncor.com, and stormcenter.oncor.com** (for reporting outages).

## 2015 Membership Kudos

**HNA Kudos!!** to Block Captains **Gina Elliott, Dan O'Connell, Mike Quint** and **Don Thomas** in a four-way tie for their blocks having the highest percentage of households (86%) joining HNA! In a close second place, **Lisa Whittemore** and **Lynn Reese** tie with 82% on their blocks joining HNA!

**ENP Kudos!!** to Block Captain **Mike Quint** for his block having the highest percentage of households (71%) joining ENP!



## Neighbor Spotlight With Joan Kiran

*Founding president of HNA Joan Kiran graciously agreed to share some background on our fabulous neighborhood.*

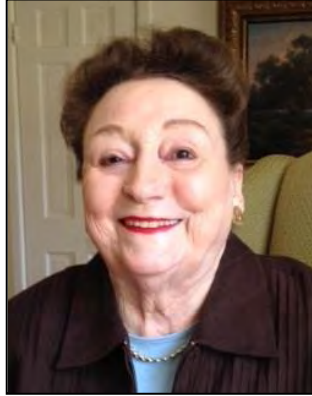
**HNA:** Joan, we know you've been heart and soul of this neighborhood from the outset. Please share how it was before we had an Association.

**Joan:** Neighborhood women formed "Wednesday Forum" in the mid 60's, actually as a garden club that soon evolved into a service group. We met in homes, and only for space restrictions we had to limit membership to 50 women. We always had a wait list. We had occasional speakers. We also volunteered. Many were mentors at Withers Elementary. And we contributed cash and supplies to certain community groups. For a long time we've purchased underwear for women and children at Genesis women's shelter, and we still do. I'm known as "the panty lady" for taking our underwear contributions to the shelter each year.

**HNA:** Amazing. We know you also were integrally involved in HNA's founding. How was that?

**Joan:** I had a traveling husband so was always interested in crime watch. Actually even before HNA and VIP, we enjoyed a neighborhood crime watch network that started in the late '80's. Joe Cox, who lived on Northaven, produced a newsletter to report neighborhood crime. But the murder in our neighborhood, on top of many robberies, got people saying, "What are we going to do?" Neighbors came to me and said, "You know everyone. Help us." They were right that I did know people. I knew many from Wednesday Forum. We were involved in the Y through my children. And I talked to neighbors all the time while out walking our dogs. My husband always said I "took the dogs for a talk." And I met people through my work as a realtor.

**HNA:** So what did you do with those connections?



**Joan:** I really didn't do anything. I was just a moderator. I knew someone on many blocks and I called those I knew. They knew people on other blocks and called them. It was all about phone calls and connections. We got every block represented.

**HNA:** Sounds like the original block captain network!

**Joan:** Yes. At the outset we met regularly at my home and people stepped up to the plate to do everything. Everyone said, "Yes, yes, yes. Whatever I can do to help." And they always left with a smile.

**HNA:** And we know that once HNA was organized, you were recruited to serve as the first president, and the rest is history. Now that HNA is more mature, would you share thoughts on how we can better foster connections among neighbors today? We know you always have been attentive to new residents.

**Joan:** When our neighborhood was young, when a family moved in on our block, I would go meet them, so I got acquainted with new neighbors. But I realized they didn't know each other. They would refer to a neighbor as "the blue Buick." So I started inviting everyone on the block to our home for a party whenever someone new moved in.

**HNA:** This is a great idea for some of our blocks today, as HNA encourages simple social events on individual blocks to connect immediate neighbors. Perhaps someone would like host a block party in honor of a new neighbor, and connect everyone on the block that way.

**Joan:** Yes. And it doesn't have to be a large event. Sometimes we invited a new neighbor for dinner and included a few other neighbors.

**HNA:** What are you doing now Joan, besides continuing to serve faithfully as an HNA Block Captain Coordinator!?

**Joan:** I love this neighborhood, and I love spending time with family, and I volunteer in several areas, such as North Dallas Shared Ministries. I am a coordinator at my church for Austin Street Shelter—again I'm a connector. I'm like the bucket that just sees where to hold people to get them engaged.

**HNA:** We are very grateful for you, Joan, and for your legacy. Thank you for sharing with us!

## ENP Update

By *Connie Campbell*

Our HNA area has enjoyed remarkably low incidents of reported thefts, burglaries and crime over the past year. The mayor reported 2014 was our 11<sup>th</sup> year of crime reduction in Dallas. Let's all work together to insure this trend continues. Burglary of Motor Vehicle (BMV) continues to be the biggest problem across all areas of the city. Stolen items from vehicles is by far the most common crime in our neighborhood. Park your cars as far up your driveway as possible, hidden from view during the night. Cars should always be locked when parked anywhere. Remember to Lock-Take-Hide.



175 households within our HNA boundary have subscribed to the ENP police patrol program for 2015. We were able to increase our patrol from 66 to 72 hours per week. We've come a long way since we started the program eight years ago with 17 hours per week. While we are not at 24/7 patrol, we now have coverage in 4, 5 and 6-hour shifts **every** day of the week.

### Safety Tips:

- Park in well-lit areas.
- Illuminate interior and exterior of your home.
- Keep garage doors closed, sheds closed & locked.
- Install 1-inch deadbolt locks instead of chain locks.
- Do not open your door to a stranger; speak to a stranger through the closed door.
- ALWAYS call 911 when you observe suspicious activity.

## ENP — Case in Point

### A recent incident in our neighborhood demonstrating ENP's positive impact:

When homeowners suspected an intruder while they were at home, they pushed their panic alarm, then locked themselves in their bedroom and dialed 911. Our ENP officer heard the call over his radio and proceeded directly to the home in under 2 minutes, and everything turned out to be okay. The response time elsewhere that night by Northwest officers was over 10 minutes – consider what a harrowing additional 8 minutes of waiting that would have been for the folks who thought there might be an intruder in their home?!

*"We were the homeowners and it was a scary time but thanks to quick response by ENP our fears were put to rest in a short amount of time. All of the officers and the 911 dispatcher were very professional and helpful. Thank you for all that our neighborhood association does to keep this a safe place."*

ENP is effective and membership costs less than \$1 per day! Spread the word!

If you are not currently a member of our ENP program, please contact me at [dallascampbells@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dallascampbells@sbcglobal.net).

**Connie Campbell**  
HNA Safety Director

### ENP by the Numbers

- 2 Minutes for on-duty ENP officer to drive to a home within the Hockaday, Royal Northaven and Les Jardins Estates Neighborhoods (HNA/RNA/LJE—our ENP contracting group).
- 3 (Actually **2.77**) Police officers per 1,000 citizens in Dallas.
- 8 Minutes average police response time for priority 1 crime in Dallas (person to person violence).
- 11 Consecutive years of crime reduction in Dallas. Neighborhood Crime Watch and Extended Patrol programs are effective!
- 42 Minutes average police response time for ALL 911 calls (includes assault, robbery, burglary, theft, BMV, suspicious persons).
- 72 Hours per week of ENP police patrol contracted for 2015 by HNA/RNA/LJE. That covers random patrol schedule, daytime and nighttime, seven days a week.
- 117 Murders in Dallas in 2014.
- 175 Households within the Hockaday Neighborhood that are current members of ENP.
- 325 Dollars for a one year subscription to ENP. That's **less than \$1 per day** to support 72 hours of police patrol in the 'hood.
- 404 Homes (lots) in the Hockaday Neighborhood (with 175 households currently subscribing to ENP, toward our goal of 250).
- 2,000,000 911 calls per year in Dallas.

## New HNA Logo Unveiled at Annual Fall Picnic

Neighbors enjoyed another fabulous HNA Fall Picnic last October, with exceptional weather!



Ann Gravseth and Susan Parker, after unveiling the new logo!



Kids enjoy the bounce house, compliments of Town North Y!



Mike and Nancy Lunceford and Frank and Franne Jackson tackle the Baker's Ribs BBQ buffet.

## Hallmark Neighbors Know Each Other Better Now!



Block Captain **Gina Elliott** with husband **Mike** (left) and others on Hallmark organized a simple outdoor block party last fall. Neighbors gathered from 5 to 6 on a Sunday afternoon on one of the circular driveways and had a ball! It doesn't require undue planning or expense to gather neighbors on a block to enjoy getting to know one another better! Let's do more of these block parties!



## Annual Food Drive a Success!



Hockaday Neighborhood rallied up and raised cash and can donations equating to 6,000 pounds of food during HNA's 5<sup>th</sup> annual Holiday Food Drive this past December. The drive benefited the

North Texas Food Bank. Thanks to everyone who generously contributed to these impactful results, and thanks to **Maureen and David Kirgis** for hosting and administering the drive!

## First Moms with Kids Event a Blast!

Over 25 families participated in the Moms with Young Kids Pancake Breakfast last September and everyone had a ball! Thanks to **Jen Lothamer** for organizing and hosting it. If you are interested in helping with or attending the next one, please contact Jen at 214-213-3099 or [jenlothamer@gmail.com](mailto:jenlothamer@gmail.com).



## Grass Class 101

By *Connie Campbell*



Are you familiar with the inserts that come in the envelope with your water bill? They generally announce tips on how to save water, and occasionally announce an upcoming presentation on **Water-Wise Landscaping** offered at Texas A&M AgriLife Research & Extension Center on Coit Road. Do you say to yourself "that would be interesting and useful, I should go!" but then you never go? Same here! **Susan Parker** and I attended one on February 7 and found it very informative. We came home with free gifts and LOTS of information. Here are some notes:

- Attractive landscaping can increase the sales price of your home up to 15%.
- Experts recommend 4 inches of mulch in your flower beds to keep weeds out and moisture in.
- NEVER scalp your grass when mowing – it is an urban legend that your lawn should be scalped in the spring. In fact, they recommend you set your mower on a higher setting so that you aren't shaving the new pretty green growth.
- NEVER use a combination weed/feed fertilizer. The concept is all marketing for lazy people. There is no way to effectively combine the chemicals to feed your lawn while simultaneously poisoning the weed growth. They recommended the following fertilizing schedule if you have St. Augustine grass: April 15, June 1 and September 1. Use a 3-1-2 fertilizer ratio: 3 parts nitrogen, 1 part phosphorus, 2 parts potassium. Many people in North Texas mis-identify problems with their lawn. He finds that folks who think they have cinch bugs usually have Brown Patch. Brown Patch is a fungal related disease, and the brown area will be circular. If un-treated, the circle will continue to grow. Treat with a fungicide that can be purchased in any garden center.
- Turn OFF your sprinkler system in winter months. Grass is meant to go dormant (brown) in winter months. Brown grass in winter does not indicate it is dead. Homes with in-ground automatic irrigation systems use 35% more water than those without systems. Households using automatic timers for their system use 47% more water than neighbors who operate their systems manually (meaning if you manually monitor your system, you will not water as

much). Watering too often and for too long is the primary source of water waste associated with landscape irrigation. You are most likely using MUCH more water than your lawn needs.

Dallas Water Utilities offers FREE irrigation system check-up by a licensed landscape irrigation specialist. You could save hundreds of dollars per year by tweaking your irrigation system!



Go to <https://savedallaswater.com> to schedule a FREE Irrigation System Check-Up. They also have information on the Free Home Toilet Replacement program.

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## City Sanitation Department Improves Communications



*Contributed by Murray Myers, Coordinator  
Dallas Sanitation Services*

At the City's Department of Sanitation Services, we've been working to expand our outreach tools so that Dallas residents can reach us in a number of ways. I've included that information below. Any recycling questions/issues (e.g. recycle roll cart request, recycling info, composting classes, etc.) can be sent to me. My number is **214-675-5990**. My focus is on the **City's Zero Waste Plan**. If there are concerns related to missed collection, brush & bulk collection, etc., it's best to call your Sanitation District office (**District 3: 214-670-3988**).

[www.facebook.com/DallasZeroWaste](http://www.facebook.com/DallasZeroWaste)

Twitter: [@DallasRecycles](https://twitter.com/DallasRecycles)

[www.dallasrecycles.com](http://www.dallasrecycles.com)

Recycling questions:  
[dallasrecycles@dallascityhall.com](mailto:dallasrecycles@dallascityhall.com)  
(I coordinate the emails on this account)

Nextdoor – [www.nextdoor.com/dss](http://www.nextdoor.com/dss)

Thank you.



## Texas 84<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session Update

By HNA's State Representative Jason Villalba



Big things are happening at the Capitol. I am working hard on legislation important to House District 114 and want to keep you updated on what is happening throughout the 84<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session.

I co-authored House Bill 11, the "Strong Border, Safer Texas" bill, which the House

of Representatives recently passed by an overwhelming vote. This legislation addresses the dangers and crime occurring at our border, seeks to enhance law enforcement on the border, strengthens defense against organized crime and bolsters the Border Prosecution Unit.

Also, the chairman of the House Appropriations committee, Representative John Otto, announced that the House will take all necessary steps to fully fund health care benefits for all retired public school teachers in Texas. I am working with Chairman Otto and other legislators to make certain the TRS benefit program receives essential funding now and in the future.

Additionally, the House unanimously passed House Bill 10 to better protect the children of our State by removing the statute of limitations from the offense of compelling prostitution of children under 18. I was excited to be able to aid in combatting human trafficking by voting in favor of this bill by Representative Senfronia Thompson.

Also of note for keeping our families and communities safer are three bills that fight against domestic violence. These bills ensure safety by increasing the penalty for repeat offenders, creating a central database of repeat offenders and providing officers with access to the evidence necessary to convict domestic violence offenders.

I would like to send my personal thanks to each of you for staying engaged in your community. I stand with you in efforts to keep Texas great!

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## HNA Thanks The Hockaday School



Heartfelt thanks to The Hockaday School for

hosting a lovely event this past January to inform Hockaday Neighborhood of construction plans and status of the Centennial Center facilities. We are grateful for the School's considerate outreach and excellent communications with the neighborhood!

## Nextdoor Hockaday Useful



Nextdoor.com is a private social network for neighborhoods. HNA encourages residents to join—**Hockaday.Nextdoor.com**—to share referrals, safety information, and more. As a subscriber, you may choose personal settings by neighborhood and topics of interest. To join, contact **Hanne Sagalowsky** at **hanne@ebby.com** or 214-402-8200.

## Farewell Welliks

**John and Susan Wellik** have moved from the 'hood to One Arts Building downtown. Both have served our association generously, **John** for many recent years as an active member of the Board, member of numerous committees, Block Captain, and as HNA's Auditor. We will miss you both greatly and want to thank you for your years of service. Please stay in touch and let us know how "movin' on down" is going!



## Interesting History...Bibber's House



Our late neighbor Bibber Kirsting was the first resident of Alta Vista Lane, at 4447. Bibber told me that when they moved in, the builder gave them the option of a "free sprinkler system" OR a "FREE LIFETIME" membership to Brookhaven Country Club. Actually the lifetime extended to Bibber and all her kids. They were like founding members and got to enjoy golf and what not for years and years and only paid for what they ate or drank. No monthly dues EVER. That's pretty awesome and an interesting side note. That came straight from the lady herself one afternoon as she was going down memory lane.

*From Cyd Stevenson*

## Remember to Vote

Vote in the **May 9, 2015 Joint Election**. Our official Election Day polling location, John Calvin Presbyterian, is presently scheduled to be open, but check the paper Election Day to be sure. Or, vote at **any** Early Voting location April 27 - May 5 (closest: Marsh Lane Baptist, Marsh & Royal). Below are the items on Hockaday Neighborhood's ballot (Precinct 2007):



### *City of Dallas*

#### Member of Council, Place 15—Mayor

Mike Rawlings	Marcos Ronquillo
Richard P. Sheridan (declared write-in candidate)	

#### Member of Council, Place 13

Jennifer Staubach Gates (uncontested)
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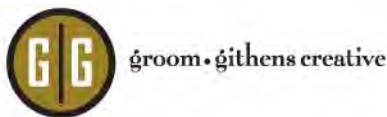
### *Dallas Independent School District*

#### For Member of Board of Trustees, District 1

Edwin Flores	Kyle Renard
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## HNA Thanks Doug Githens

HNA thanks Doug Githens for his tremendous support in the design of our new logo and graphic standards and promotional brochure. We are pleased to recognize him:



Concept • Writing • Art Direction • Design

www.groomgithens.com  
 Doug Githens | Creative Director  
 doug@groomgithens.com  
 M: 972.333.5771

## HNA Public Website updated

Thanks to Webmaster **Charlie Kirgis**, our updated website is a great resource for our Association. You may use the website to share information for our semi-annual newsletters (births, achievements, discoveries etc.): Click on "Contact" and choose "Newsletter" from the dropdown menu in the subject line. And our new web address is easier to remember: **www.hockadayneighborhoodassociation.org**.

## HNA Officers & Directors ~ 2015

Office	Office Holder
President	Susan Parker
Vice President	Hanne Sagalowsky
Secretary	Karen Wiese
Treasurer	Don Thomas
Director Safety	Connie Campbell
Director Communications	Marty Forte'
Director Social	Suzanne Horne
Director Membership	Courtney Joyner
Director Welcome	Cindy Sands
Director-at-Large	Joan Boddie
Director-at-Large	Mary Beth Callahan
Director-at-Large	Jason Fish
Director-at-Large	Ann Gravseth
Director-at-Large	Kara Heckel
Director-at-Large	Courtney Johnson
Director-at-Large	Jen Lothamer
Director-at-Large	Clif Nixon
Director-at-Large	Melanie Obriotti
Director-at-Large	Tara Schnepf
Newsletter Editor	Marty Forte'
Webmaster private site	Hanne Sagalowsky
Webmaster public site	Charlie Kirgis

### *In Memoriam*

**Dana Roper** (September 2014)  
**Marvelle Muntzel** (September 2014)  
**Fritz Petree**, (October 2014)  
**Silvie Sibila** (January 2015)  
**Charlotte Nicholson** (February 2015)  
**Marguirite Cook** (February 2015)  
**Dottie Fanoni** (March 2015)

The *Hockaday Herald* is the official communications publication of Hockaday Neighborhood Association Inc. The Association disclaims any responsibility for the accuracy of information included in this newsletter.



www.hockadayneighborhoodassociation.org  
 www.hockaday.nextdoor.com