

# The Hockaday Herald

Official Newsletter of the Hockaday Neighborhood Association Inc.

Fall, 2014



## HNA Celebrates Twenty Years!



### President's Message



Dear Neighbors,

Twenty years ago, in 1994, the Hockaday Neighborhood Association was born. See Tim Allen's reflections on the founding of our Association (page 3). Our thanks to Tim and

many others who organized this outstanding Association to make our neighborhood safer and stronger.

I can't believe that it is mid-August and I am writing this from my patio! What a beautiful rain yesterday – the plants and grasses look almost Spring Green and the flowers are still blooming bright red and pink – just another summer afternoon in our 'hood.

Please make plans to attend our last HNA social event of the year – the popular Fall Picnic on Sunday, October 19. Bring your family, invite a neighbor (especially those new ones who aren't yet a part of this tradition – we have 45 homes with new owners in the past 18 months), and get ready for some tasty Texas Bar-B-Q.

**Block Challenge!:** How can your block get to know each other and share some fun? Several blocks have already hosted social gatherings this year with great turnouts. Anyone can inspire a Block Blast! Just contact your Block Captain (listed on page 4 of your HNA directory) and

make some simple plans. On some blocks, a single event has led to a tradition, such as holiday progressive dinners, annual graduation celebrations for the year's honorees, and Alta Vista's better-known Halloween extravaganza. Time to create more traditions in our 'hood. (And *please* share a photo for the next newsletter to inspire others! E-mail [martyforte@sbcglobal.net](mailto:martyforte@sbcglobal.net).) Ice cream socials, coffeecake Saturday mornings, or craft beer TGIF's sound like winners to me.

Remember, a FUN and ACTIVE community is a SAFE community – KYN! (Hint: See pages 18-19 in your HNA directory).

*Ann Gravseth*

[agravseth@sbcglobal.net](mailto:agravseth@sbcglobal.net), 214-350-6324

### Fall 2014 Calendar

**September 20 or 27 (Saturday)**, 8:30–10 a.m.  
**Moms-with-Kids Pancake Breakfast**  
Jen Lothamer's, 4508 Cedarbrush

**October 19 (Sunday)**, 4:00–6:00 p.m.  
**Fall Picnic**, The Hockaday School grounds

**December 1 through 21**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Annual HNA Holiday Food Drive**

#### HNA 2014 Virtual Annual Meeting

As the only items on HNA's 2014 agenda are routine and non-controversial, the Board proposes to hold a "virtual" meeting this year. You will receive full information and easy voting instructions by October.

## Welcome New Neighbors!

### Alta Vista

4557 – Mary & Mark Campagnano  
4637 – Hayley & Aaron Milam

### Cedarbrush

4507 – Susan Linder  
4557 – Zi & Gary Lichliter\*

### Hallmark

4540 – Susan & Mike Viracola\*  
4719 – Katie & Luke McLeroy\*

### Hockaday

4236 – Carolyn & Allan Maly\*  
4412 – Mindy & Jeff Baxter\*

### Northview

4330 – Lauren & Dewayne Bailey\*

### Shady Hill

4221 – Susan & Jim Brower\*  
4517 – Alison & Sidney White

### Strait

11411 – Maggie Radford & Bob Weiss\*

*We are thrilled to have you all in the 'hood!*

*\*New HNA Members!*

## Moms with Kids to Meet for Pancake Breakfast



HNA moms with young kids, please come meet other moms in the 'hood over a pancake breakfast at HNA Director **Jen Lothamer**'s home, 4508 Cedarbrush, September 20 or 27 (check with Jen for the firm date and to RSVP: [jenlothamer@gmail.com](mailto:jenlothamer@gmail.com)). Come and go from 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. Let's get to know each other and enjoy a close-by support system!

## HNA to Host 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Food Drive



Our Holiday Food Drive benefiting the North Texas Food Bank will run from December 1<sup>st</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>. Pre-paid credit and grocery store gift cards and checks are **very** welcome as well, and will go toward our 2,000-pound food goal. Drop-off point again will be 4724 Alta Vista. Please note your calendar and watch for details in our flyer!

*Maureen Kirgis*, HNA Director



## Block Blasts!

Block Captains are inspiring more fun connections among neighbors on their blocks! Block Captain **Susan Kiser** and her neighbors **Deborah Perkins** and **Tim Sutherland** hosted a Strait Lane happy hour/BBQ in May at the Perkins/Sutherland home. New Block Captain **Michelle Mew** joined with neighbors to host a College Park happy hour. According to Block Captain **Mike Quint**, Alta Vista will carry its Halloween tradition east of Welch this year, and with five new "empty nesters" on the block, there may be an empty nester gathering, too. Block Captain **Gina Elliott** and **Suzanne Horne** have plans for their Hallmark block. Through such events, we can get to know each other, enjoy living in Hockaday Neighborhood even more, and help keep one another safer. All HNA members are encouraged to get with their Block Captain with ideas for gathering neighbors together.

*Susan Parker*, HNA Vice President

Thank you, **Cindy Sands**,  
HNA's wonderful Welcome Director,  
for seeking out our new neighbors!

## Annual Fall Picnic Coming Soon!

Don't miss HNA's popular Annual Fall Picnic on Sunday, October 19, from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. on The Hockaday School grounds. Enjoy BBQ by Bakers Ribs and lots of camaraderie with neighbors. Kids will love the bounce house and slide!



This event is **free for HNA member households**. Guests are welcome (\$20 per person; \$5 for children under 10). Or you may join HNA at the picnic! Mark calendars and watch for our flyer with full details on this well-loved tradition.



## Neighbor Spotlight -- With Tim Allen and a Brief History of HNA

*After over twenty years of service to HNA as an officer, VIP patroller, and many years as a Block Captain Coordinator and Block Captain, **Tim Allen** is retiring from leadership. One of HNA's original organizers, he agreed to share some history on its founding and evolution.*

**HNA:** From your perspective, how did the Association get started?

**Tim:** Tragically, it was largely triggered by the murder of an elderly woman here in our neighborhood. She had been at the grocery. The perpetrator was apparently attracted by her jewelry and the luxury car she drove. He followed her home, and there was a robbery and the woman was killed. This shocked everyone.



Also around that time, there were two home invasions just north of Forest.

A few of us began talking—Joan Kiran, John and Juanita Barnes, Jim and Pat Helwig, myself and a few others, and everyone's thinking was, "We cannot have this in our neighborhood. We've got to do something."

**HNA:** How did you get things going?

**Tim:** It was very spontaneous, and it wasn't just me. You should talk to Joan Kiran and Margot and Tom Murphy, and Bill DeWitt, and I can give you other names.

**HNA:** Yes, but this particular feature is on you.

**Tim:** Well, at first we met in homes to talk. We tried to find someone on each block to host a discussion for people on their block, and many did. As more people got on board, we met together at Good Shepherd Parish Hall or Withers Elementary. We put together a proposal for forming the Association. I remember walking the blocks delivering flyers to every household.

**HNA:** How did you establish geographical boundaries for that?

**Tim:** We all saw the same natural neighborhood boundaries of Forest to Northaven and Midway to Strait.

**HNA:** Was there any resistance?

**Tim:** Yes. Well, many liked it, especially younger couples moving into the neighborhood who both were working and having to leave their homes unattended all day.

But, yes, there was resistance at first from some who thought we wanted to impose restrictions, like the kinds of flowers people could plant, or paint colors they could use, like other "homeowner" associations. We never wanted that. We wanted a "**neighborhood**" association to promote safety and to encourage people to know each other and look out for one another. People started seeing those benefits. Some also saw an organized entity would give us clout in dealing with TU Electric or the Dallas City Council.

Some of the initial opponents became the staunchest proponents in our formation. And they became very involved in the Association and in the Volunteers-in-Patrol which HNA facilitated. And crime statistics show that it worked.

**HNA:** So once the will was there, how did HNA really get formed?

**Tim:** Joan Kiran was our original president. Tom Murphy invested a lot of time drawing up our original legal documents, pro bono. We wanted to be an "entity," but not restrictive, and he drafted the charter and bylaws to reflect that.

Pat Helwig was the original Secretary/Treasurer and set up all our membership and financial records on her MAC. When the Helwigs moved to Arkansas shortly afterward, I took over that role because I was the only other person who had a MAC! Later, John Moore put the membership records into a database program and produced the directory.

**HNA:** What else has changed over 20 years?

**Tim:** Everything is more organized and at a higher level. July 4 was first a tradition on one

*(continued on page 8)*


## Crime and Safety in the 'Hood

By Connie Campbell



**Do THIS!** We often hear Crime and Safety tips from multiple sources, and we want to share a recent incident that illustrates CORRECT procedure:

A resident at (46XX) Hallmark recently awakened to a loud banging on his front door at 2:30 a.m. When he approached his door he saw an agitated young woman who was calling through the glass, "Call 911, Call 911!" The homeowner called through the door, "I will call 911 for you. Wait there." He called 911 and then looked out his window to insure there was no immediate threat to the woman on the porch. He stood inside and observed from his window until the police arrived ten minutes later. The officers talked to the woman, determined she was having a psychotic or drug-induced episode, and transported her to the hospital.

This HNA resident did EXACTLY the right thing! He did NOT open the door; he called 911 immediately, and waited/ watched from inside his home. He followed the Crime Watch protocol exactly, and what could have been a harrowing experience was handled by the Dallas Police. If you are a member of ENP, you still must call 911 IMMEDIATELY. Do not attempt to contact the ENP officer because you have no way of knowing if there is a patroller on duty at that time. Please help educate your neighbors about calling 911 IMMEDIATELY for any suspicious or frightening activity. 

### Recent Crime Activity in Surrounding Areas:

Fortunately, HNA had no reports of residential burglaries this summer. Some of our surrounding neighborhoods were not so fortunate. Following are home burglary stats for surrounding areas:

6/25 153214-2014 on Crown Shore  
7/6 162357-2017 on Crown Shore  
7/12 167533-2014 on Forest Bend  
7/18 172601-2014 on Forest Bend  
7/31 183416-2014 on Mill Creek  
8/1 185415-2014 on Ridgeside  
8/2 185390-2014 on Harvest Hill

Please remain vigilant! Report any suspicious activity immediately via 911. Consider joining your neighbors who underwrite our paid police patrol, ENP. We currently have 155 ENP members within our HNA neighborhood. For information on program benefits and how to join, contact Connie Campbell at [dallascampbells@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dallascampbells@sbcglobal.net).

### Thank you, ENP Officer David Meldrum!

A big shout out to ENP patrolling Officer David Meldrum who came to the rescue of a Town North YMCA member whose car was stolen from the Y parking lot. Officer Meldrum picked up the 911 call and proceeded to the Y where he took the victim's report, then offered to take him home and secure a locksmith (his keys were stolen) so that he could get into his house. A friend in need – indeed!



Connie Campbell  
HNA Safety Director (ENP)  
[dallascampbells@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dallascampbells@sbcglobal.net)

\* \* \*

## Garage Sale Vigilance Bears on Neighborhood Safety

Dallas Code Enforcement director Neely Blackman recently addressed District 13 Crime Watch leaders, noting changes in the garage sale ordinance. Current rules:



*Permit fees:* 1<sup>st</sup> sale \$0. 2<sup>nd</sup> sale \$25.  
*Limit per premise over 12 month period:* 2 sales.  
*Limit on duration:* 3 consecutive calendar days.  
*Limit on advertising signs:* 1 on the sale lot; 5 at remote locations.  
*Restrictions on sign placement:* Private property only, owner's permission required.  
*Sign removal requirement:* Within 24 hours following the sale.

For more information:

[http://www.dallascityhall.com/code\\_compliance/garage\\_sales.html](http://www.dallascityhall.com/code_compliance/garage_sales.html)

Information submitted by  
HNA Director Clif Nixon

## Kudos to HNA's Girl Scout Gold Awardees

HNA is honored to recognize its recent Girl Scout Gold Awardees, **Meghan Harshaw** and **Meredith Burke**.

**Meredith** is shown here in the Blackland Prairie, which she restored for her Gold Award project.

This involved removing invasive grasses and reseeding native plants and flowers. She has been selected as the 2014 Young Woman of Distinction for the Girl Scouts of NE Council.



**Meghan** designed and built houses for mosquito-eating bats, important to reducing mosquito population and helping prevent West Nile Virus. Several in the 'hood participated in her project.

She is pictured here with her folks, Rob and Ana, who also are engaged in scouting as leaders. Ana has served as Meghan's troop leader since she was in 1<sup>st</sup> grade, and Rob as son Christopher's scoutmaster.

Thank you, Burkes and Harshaws, for representing us so honorably!

## HNA Explores Formation of Helping-Hand Group



**Please give this thought!**

Consistent with HNA's purposes, several have suggested we organize a team of neighbors willing to assist our seniors with needs such as grocery shopping, transportation to doctor's appointments, or meals brought to them. A related objective may be to support boarding students at The Hockaday School, many here from other countries.

We are in search of (1) an HNA member to chair an ad hoc committee to consider and outline how this might work, and (2) members interested in serving on the committee and/or as a resource if we organize. Please contact our Social/Service Director Hanne Sagalowsky if this resonates with you: [hanne@ebby.com](mailto:hanne@ebby.com) or 214-402-8200. Thank you for your consideration.

## Help Prevent Power Outages!



Before we hit winter months, please check the power lines in your alley (the highest lines are the power lines). If tree limbs are growing through or close to those lines, please call Oncor and place an order for a tree trim.

Help keep our electricity on! Winter ice storms cause the limbs to break or bend and snap the power lines.

**ONCOR Service request:**  
1-888-313-6862



## Crumbling Planters Removed

Kudos to the HNA Board and agreeable neighbors on the removal of the old and crumbling pairs of brick planters along the west side of Welch Road. Surely those were attractive architectural features back in the '60's when installed, but it was time for the dated entrances to be removed. It's nice to see those rolling lawns and open vistas. Thank you for the nice improvement, HNA!



## The Hockaday School Opens its State-of-the-Art Science Center



After 14 months of construction, The Hockaday School officially opened its new Science Center on August 27.

The new facilities include a performance/lecture hall, high-tech classrooms and labs, independent student labs, rooftop green lab and flexible IDEA labs, engineering shop, 16-seat planetarium, and Foucault pendulum and sundolier. With these enhancements, Hockaday will continue to lead in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) education, preparing students



for the demands of an ever-changing future. Tours of the Science Center will be available to members of the media as requested.

**Note from Headmistress Kim Wargo:** "We are grateful for the neighborhood's patience and understanding during Phase I of construction of our Centennial Center."

*The Hockaday School, the largest independent girls' school in the country, is a college preparatory day and boarding school for girls, from pre-K through grade 12. Ranked among the country's finest college preparatory schools, Hockaday was founded in 1913 and continues today to build on its original Four Cornerstones: Courtesy, Character, Scholarship, and Athletics.*

**Congratulations** to new HNA neighbor **Susan Brower** on her new position as The Hockaday School's Director of Communications! You may contact her at [sbrower@hockaday.org](mailto:sbrower@hockaday.org) or at 214-360-6424.

## City Councilmember Gates Addresses HNA

The City Council is in the thick of budget season, and we will be approving the final budget for FY 14-15 in a few weeks. This is the largest City budget in history with a 4% increase in the general fund. The budget aims to improve the vitality of our neighborhoods, maintains our momentum for public safety, and restores previously reduced services. According to this proposed budget, all services provided this year will continue next year, and some services will be expanded.



The Council is also tackling transportation-for-hire regulations and looking into amending the current ordinance. Under the direction of Councilmember Sandy Greyson, a taskforce was formed to research and provide recommendations to Council. The Council also sought the opinions of the public in an open public comment period, which ended August 29<sup>th</sup>. The City Council is expected to hear and pass the ordinance sometime this fall after public forums and continued discussions. I encourage you to look for coverage and updates of this process in the news. You may find the proposed changes to the ordinance on the City Secretary's website. Please reach out to my office if you have questions, concerns, or opinions on the transportation-for-hire ordinance.

As the long hot summer is coming to an end, I am certainly looking forward to the cooler fall weather. With the start of fall always comes the State Fair, opening on September 26<sup>th</sup>! I encourage you all to get out and experience the fair, walk our beautiful trails, and explore the new pedestrian park on the Continental Bridge. The newly designed Parks Department website is a great resource for you to check out what Dallas has to offer ([www.dallasparcs.org](http://www.dallasparcs.org)).

*Jennifer Staubach Gates  
Dallas City Councilmember – District 13  
214-670-3816*

## Many Thanks to Backyard Treasures Organizers and Hosts



Hockaday Neighborhood came alive Sunday afternoon, May 4, for the **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Discover Backyard Treasures**, already a well-loved tradition. Our heartfelt thanks to event co-chairs **Suzanne Horne** and **Jen Lothamer**, and our six host families for their gracious hospitality and inspiration.



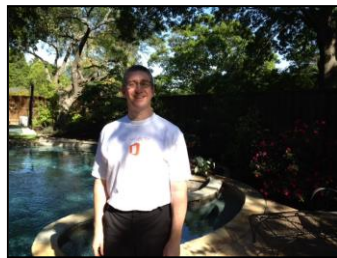
Hosts Aliya and Jim Nisbet



Host Susan Parker (L) with Bob and Liz Glogowski (Bob and Suzanne Horne in background!)



Hosts Tim Sutherland and Deborah Perkins



Host David Kirgis (co-host Maureen was out touring!)



(L-R) David and Mandy Mikula w/ hosts Eric and Jennifer Harrison, Annie Joyner and Lexie Mikula.



Host Chris Bovard (Allison was out touring, presumably w/ Maureen Kirgis!)



← Corey and Jen Lothamer

If you are interested in being a 2015 Backyard Treasures host, please contact Suzanne or Jen:  
**Suzanne:** 214-729-2903, [thasuz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:thasuz@sbcglobal.net).  
**Jen:** 214-213-3099, [jenlothamer@gmail.com](mailto:jenlothamer@gmail.com).

## July 4 Celebration Awesome!

Thanks to **Courtney Joyner**, **David Mikula**, **Susan Parker**, and RNA's **Kathy Zibilich** for producing an outstanding Fourth of July event! The committee estimates over 250 paraders, spectators and celebrators enjoyed this joint HNA-RNA tradition, including new features like the pre-parade decorating station and post-parade "cool zone." Anticipate more improvements in 2015!



David Mikula and Susan Bendalin, you rock!




Life-long Hockaday Neighborhood Buddies enjoy the event together! From left: Christopher Cunningham, Will Schnepf, Dani Nisbet, Miki Nisbet

## Calling All Runners

The 'Hood Running Group starts again in September. If you're interested, meet on Friday mornings at 6 a.m. at The Hockaday School sign on Welch.



 This is an example of a group formed through our private Nextdoor Hockaday website network. If you wish to join Nextdoor Hockaday, please contact **Hanne Sagalowsky** at [hanne@ebby.com](mailto:hanne@ebby.com) or 214-402-8200 for access.

\* \* \*

*(Spotlight Tim Allen...continued from page 3)*

block of Alta Vista, and now it's the whole neighborhood. We used to have a picnic in Judge Hoffmann's yard on Northview, and now it's on Hockaday School grounds with bounce houses.

A big thing to me, I really applaud Connie Campbell for getting the ENP program started. For years before that, I proposed paying off-duty police to supplement our VIP, but people didn't get behind the idea. I think this is a good thing in our evolution.

**HNA:** Do you have any concern about HNA?

**Tim:** I hear a few young people say they have no need to join HNA, crime is so low. I would like people to see HNA is good for the neighborhood and for them. It gives a framework for events that give a sense of community. Parents get to know each other through the events, and that helps keep kids safe. And people meet and form friendships. Marilyn and I still stay in touch with the Helwigs in Arkansas. We visit them, and they come visit us. This friendship started through our mutual concern for our neighborhood.

*True to Tim's faithful dedication to HNA, he has recruited able successors to his present Block Captain Coordinator and Block Captain duties, insuring there is no gap. HNA thanks **Michelle Mew** for succeeding as Block Captain Coordinator, and **Mike Quint** for succeeding as Block Captain. Thank you again, Tim, for your many continuous years of service and your important legacy in our Association.*

## HNA Officers & Directors ~ 2014

Office	Office Holder
President	Ann Gravseth
Vice President	Susan Parker
Treasurer	Don Thomas
Secretary	Mary Beth Callahan
Dir. Communications	Marty Forte'
Dir. Membership	Courtney Joyner
Director Safety (VIP)	Joan Boddie
Director Safety (ENP)	Connie Campbell
Director Social/Service	Hanne Sagalowsky
Director Welcome	Cindy Sands
Director (At Large)	Jason Fish
Director (At Large)	Kara Heckel
Director (At Large)	Suzanne Horne
Director (At Large)	Maureen Kirgis
Director (At Large)	Jen Lothamer
Director (At Large)	David Mikula
Director (At Large)	Clif Nixon
Director (At Large)	Tara Schnepf
Director (At Large)	Karen Wiese
Director (At Large)	John Wellik

Newsletter Editor	Marty Forte'
Webmaster private site	Hanne Sagalowsky
Webmaster public site	Charlie Kirgis

## In Memoriam

**Warren Perrine (May 2014)**

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[www.hnavip.org](http://www.hnavip.org)  
[www.hockaday.nextdoor.com](http://www.hockaday.nextdoor.com)

**HNA Purpose:** *To promote and advance the common good and general welfare of the 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.*