

HillcrestForest.org

Spring 2020

#### **ANNUAL MEETING**

Please join us!

### Saturday, May 2 - 1:30 PM, Churchill Recreation Center

Southeast corner of Hillcrest Road and Churchill Way.

### The Tornado



Thankfully, no one was killed, but some residents will be dealing with the aftermath for a long time. Eventually homes will be repaired and new homes will be built. But some of our beautiful, tree-lined streets will not look the same for many years to come.

For the latest neighborhood info, visit our web site: www.HillcrestForest.ORG

We update our web site often!



From President Bruce Wilke Hillcrest Forest funds \$2,500 in patrols

After the tornado was gone, next came the thieves. They burglarized not only badly-damaged homes that were temporarily vacant, but also homes still occupied.

Crime in the tornado area soared.

To help protect our neighborhood, our association granted \$2,500 to the 5 STAR ENP Patrol to fund extra patrols on the damaged streets. Then many generous neighbors stepped up and donated thousands of dollars more, to add even more patrol time.

We also contacted our City Council member, Lee Kleinman, who went directly to Dallas Police Chief Renee Hall to ask what was being done to protect homeowners on the devastated streets. The City added patrols and enlisted city marshals to supplement the police.

No amount of patrolling can eliminate all crime, but the joint efforts of the city, our association, and a lot of caring neighbors made a difference.



#### Thank you, 5 STAR ENP

When crime in the tornado area went up, the 5 STAR ENP added patrols. Some were paid with their own funds, some by a \$2,500 grant from our Association, and much of it was funded by good neighbors who wanted to help. Our thanks to the 5 STAR ENP for helping to secure the neighborhood with all of those additional officer hours.

## A special thanks to the Extra Patrol Time donors

Dozens of generous residents donated nearly \$6,000 to add extra patrol hours and protect the neighborhood. And crime in the impacted area dropped significantly after the expanded patrolling! Thank you!



Solicitors are not only a nuisance, but potentially a security risk. The best way to discourage them is with a NO SOLICITING sign at your front door. Residents who have added a sign say that it eliminates most solicitors.

It is illegal for a solicitor to disturb you if a "No Soliciting" sign is posted. It's like a No Trespassing sign. If they knock anyway, call 911 and report them. Give the 911 dispatcher a description and which way they went.

Some residents prefer to not answer the door, but the Police say it's actually better if the solicitor knows that the resident is there. If the "solicitor" is actually a burglar and they believe that no one is home, they might go around back and try to break in. Police suggest telling them firmly through the locked door that you are not interested.

Amazon.com has a good selection of the signs -- including the one pictured!



# 2019-2020 Board

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VICE PRESIDENT 4th of JULY PARADE GEOGRAPHIC REPS

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SECRETARY DIRECTORY Darleen Robertson
Beverly Pitchford Cathy Gilberg Carter Stack

TREASURER ZONING
Mac McGinnis Tracey Bailey

NEWSLETTER NOMINATIONS
We need a Volunteer! Audrey Naarden

Hillcrest Forest is a sponsor of the Northaven Home Tour, benefiting our neighborhood public school, Kramer Elementary. The tour is on Saturday, April 18. Hillcrest Forest members will receive details by email.



Saturday, April 18th



For more information, visit www.northavenhometour.com



Dallas Police say to not be reluctant to call 911. We are their eyes and ears. You will not take them away from something more important, because they prioritize 911 calls according to officer availability.

# A Single-project Volunteer Opportunity

Our association needs a volunteer to arrange our 4th of July parade. We can show you how! Optional Board membership is included.

The job: Making phone calls to book entertainment, a fire truck, etc. On the 4th of July, use a hand-held mic to make a few announcements.

Email HillcrestForestDallas@gmail.com if you want more information!