



Hillcrest Forest Neighborhood Association

HillcrestForest.org

Spring 2018

ANNUAL MEETING

Please join us!

Saturday, May 5 - 1:30 PM, Churchill Recreation Center

Southeast corner of Hillcrest Road and Churchill Way

Our Guest Speaker

from **911Wildlife** will offer
facts and advice about
bobcats & coyotes



There will be **no home tour** after the meeting this year. Instead, our association is a sponsor of the home hour by our neighborhood's public school, Kramer Elementary. Their Northaven Home Tour last year was a tremendous success. Their tour this year is on **April 14**. All proceeds will go to benefit the students at Kramer.



Kramer Elementary Accolades

Our neighborhood school, Arthur Kramer Elementary on Midbury Drive, was the first elementary school in DISD to qualify as an elite International Baccalaureate school. Congratulations, Kramer!

Kramer also has an innovative Dual Language program, and an Immersion Spanish language program for English-speaking students. Both programs are optional but are very popular with parents in our neighborhood and have contributed to a growing number of students at the school.



From President Bruce Wilke

The Dallas Police say:

**"PLEASE DON'T GIVE MONEY
TO PANHANDLERS"**

Chances are that you have seen panhandlers at a major intersection in our part of town. Some are homeless, and others simply pretend to be homeless because they can make easy money. Sometimes they approach customers in retail parking lots and claim to need gas money "to get home".

Dallas Police ask residents: PLEASE DO NOT GIVE CASH to panhandlers. It only encourages and attracts more of them. They go where the money is, and a few of them can be aggressive.

If you want to help the homeless, the Police suggest that you donate to organizations that can truly help them, such as:

The Bridge Homeless Recovery Center

The Austin Street Center, or

The Union Gospel Mission



Private ENP Patrols send crime to a 4 year low

For the second consecutive year, the **5 Star ENP** patrol group reports over a 60% drop in reported crime compared to the 3-year average prior to the patrols. The number of burglaries plunged from an average of 19 back then to just 4 in 2017. Auto break-ins declined from 21 to 9. (Cars parked outside overnight are obviously the only ones at risk.)

The 5 Star ENP is east of Hillcrest Road, from Forest Lane to Royal Lane. It is funded by residents, so it's really important for everyone to support it in order to maintain these low crime rates. The number of patrol hours depends entirely on resident donations, so every member counts.

We believe that residents in the new Churchill Way ENP (managed by our Association) are seeing a similar benefit from their patrols.

2017-2018 HILLCREST FOREST BOARD

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NEWSLETTER
We need a Volunteer!

NOMINATIONS
Audrey Naarden



The Northaven Trail

The Northaven Trail is one of the crown jewels of our neighborhood, and it's our only City park. The Hillcrest Forest Neighborhood Association supports the Trail and sponsors several events a year.

You may know that the Trail is being extended. Work has already begun west of Midway Road, and work will start soon on the link from Preston Road to Midway. Eventually the trail will also connect eastward to White Rock Lake.

Don't forget that if you take your pet on the Trail with you, city law requires that dogs be on leashes (it's not a dog park), and take a plastic bag or two as a courtesy to other trail users. There are several pet stations on the trail where you can dispose of them.





Do you have a "No Soliciting" sign?

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 that it's actually better if the solicitor knows that a resident is there. If 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.

The more NO SOLICITING signs posted on our homes, the less appealing we are to solicitors.

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



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.

FOR THE LATEST INFO . . .

Visit our website www.HillcrestForest.ORG

We update our website much more often than we print & mail newsletters!