

5 STAR ENP IMPROVEMENTS IN 2016!

The 5 Star ENP police patrol south of Forest Lane, east of Hillcrest Road, is separate from our association, but most residents there belong to both organizations. We share a common interest in improving neighborhood security. For convenience, we combine our annual enrollment process.



Half of the patrols take place while we're sleeping. You may not see them unless you are awake and happen to look outside as they drive by, but they're out there. Patrols now average 40 hours a week, a substantial increase from three years ago. If you live in the 5 Star ENP area, you can personally increase patrol hours by adding a little extra to your annual financial support. While no amount of patrolling will totally eliminate crime, there has been a significant decrease in crime in the 5 Star ENP area since the patrols started.

The 5 Star ENP plans to make the Police Patrol even more effective this year:

More police visibility. Officers will not only patrol, but will periodically park at high-traffic entrances to our neighborhood and in other locations, to see and be seen by people passing through. The sight of a watchful police car will heighten awareness of the police presence and increase deterrence.

Traffic monitoring. Certain streets that historically have had a high incidence of speeding drivers will sometimes be monitored by radar officers. Speeders will be stopped, and officers are empowered to write tickets. This will also add "police presence" to people passing through. Drive safely and please stay below the speed limit!

Our thanks to ENP president, **Beverly Houston** on Azalea Lane, for her many hours of work to make our neighborhood safer!

CHURCHILL WAY ENP LAUNCHED!

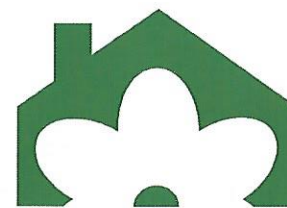


As an outcome of our negotiations with Alcuin School on Churchill Way regarding their 2015 re-zoning request, Alcuin agreed to fund neighborhood security patrols for 10 years in the area of their school. The patrols are overseen by our association.

In November, off-duty Dallas Police began 4-hour patrols at random times during the day. Late night patrols by Smith Protective Services started in January. You can see the patrol area and find more information on our web site, www.hillcrestforest.org.

These new security patrols will make the entire neighborhood less inviting to criminals.

There are two small areas in our association which do not have patrols yet, and we will continue to explore ways by which service might one day be added there.



Hillcrest Forest Neighborhood Association

HillcrestForest.org

Spring 2016

ANNUAL MEETING & HOME TOUR

Please mark your calendar to attend our Annual Meeting on Saturday, May 7, at 1:00 p.m.

The meeting will be held at the Churchill Recreation Center at the intersection of Hillcrest Road and Churchill Way. After a brief meeting, we will adjourn for our **9th Annual Home Tour**. This tour has always been a big hit, as HFNA members get to look inside some very interesting homes in our neighborhood. As always, the tour will only be open to our own members who attend our Annual Meeting just prior.

The weather is usually beautiful in May. Everything will be green and blooming.
You won't want to miss it!

KRAMER IS AN
INTERNATIONAL



BACCALAUREATE CANDIDATE

Our neighborhood DISD school, Kramer Elementary, has a strong tradition of developing globally-minded students, critical thinkers, and problem solvers. During the current school year, Kramer has been named an International Baccalaureate Candidacy School and they are working toward certification as an IB World School in 2016-17.

Changes will include providing a second language acquisition for all students, and Kramer will also continue its current leading-edge Dual Language program as an option. IB students would participate in project-based learning where they would connect what they learn at school to their daily lives and the world around them.

In addition, Franklin Middle School will offer the Middle Years IB program, and Hillcrest High School will soon offer the highly-regarded IB Diploma Program. Once all of this is in place, our neighborhood kids will have the opportunity to complete a vertically-aligned and academically rigorous International Baccalaureate program from Kindergarten through the 12th grade.

If you have pre-school children, neighbor, mom, and HFNA board member **Abby Mayer** on Baxtershire Drive has formed a group to provide enjoyable opportunities for parents to get to know each other and share information regarding area schools. For more information, please contact Abby at abbymayer4@gmail.com

FROM PRESIDENT BRUCE WILKE

Panhandlers

Members have contacted me about the increasing number of panhandlers near North Central Expressway and at Preston-Royal and Preston-Forest.



I spoke with the Police about this. Bottom line, we are usually being scammed. And they are there because people give them cash.

Some of them are homeless, but others have simply found that they can make good money from our kind-hearted residents. The police say that they have well-rehearsed stories. A sorrowful, "I just need gas money to get home" is now a common line, having replaced the once-popular "Will work for food".

We instinctively want to help, but the Police say that giving them cash will draw more panhandlers. They say:

- Regardless of the story, the money is often spent on alcohol or worse. If they are really down on their luck, there are agencies and services that can better help them.
- If they approach you on a parking lot and it makes you uneasy, it is up to the business to get keep them away, or they will lose customers. Ask for the manager and tell them that a person on their property makes you uncomfortable. It's trespassing, and the police will respond if the manager calls 9-1-1.
- Provide a good description of the individual. The police need that. The more reports that they receive, the more attention that a location gets.

I came close to giving some "gas money" to an almost-tearful woman at Preston Royal this week. She was convincing. Then I caught myself and said, "No, I'm sorry". Her sad face instantly changed to all-business – it was an act – and she moved on to her next target.

Giving them money attracts more panhandlers to our neighborhood – they go where the money is.



PRESTON ROYAL BOOK CLUB

The Preston Royal book club is sponsored by the Preston Royal Library and led by Hillcrest-Forest Vice President, Kristin Malmberg.

Members choose an interesting monthly book, read the book before the meeting, and then compare thoughts in a discussion.

The club welcomes fresh faces and new ideas. They meet the 4th Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Preston Royal Library, 5626 Royal Lane. (November and December dates are different due to the holidays.)

Visit our web site, www.hillcrestforest.org to see the upcoming books, or contact Book Club president Kristin Malmberg at kmalmberg@att.net for more information!

WATER RESTRICTIONS ARE BACK!

Don't forget that watering restrictions are back in force as of April 1



If your house number is even, including ending in zero, your watering days are Sundays & Thursdays. If your house number is odd, your watering days are Saturdays & Wednesdays.

Irrigation of landscaped areas with hose-end sprinklers or automatic irrigation systems is limited to no more than twice per week according to the MANDATORY schedule.

No watering is allowed on Mondays, Tuesdays or Fridays and from April 1-October 31, watering is prohibited between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. on the allowed watering days. Drip irrigation, soaker hoses and hand watering are allowed on any day and at any time.



CRIME FIGHTING TIPS

- If you have a house alarm, be sure to use it.
- If you don't have an alarm, the new systems are wireless and relatively inexpensive. Be sure to get at least 2 quotes and avoid lengthy contracts.
- If at all possible, keep your car in your garage overnight. 40% of the crime in North Dallas is motor vehicle break-ins after midnight. Automobile garage door openers also offer criminals away into your house.
- If you see something suspicious, always call 9-1-1. The police can't be everywhere, and they say that we are their eyes and ears.

2015 - 2016 HFNA BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT

Bruce Wilke

VICE PRESIDENT

Kristin Malmberg

TREASURER

Bill Boyd

SECRETARY

Carter Stack

NEWSLETTER

Melinda Cato Cross

MEMBERSHIP

Lorraine Hellinghausen

ZONING

Tracey Bailey

GOOD NEIGHBOR DIRECTORY

Germaine O'Donnell

EVENTS – HOME TOUR

Melinda & Keith Cross

EVENTS – PARADE

Abby Mayer

HISTORIAN

Jane Pak

LIAISON

Renee Saulnier

WEBSITE

Bruce Wilke

GEOGRAPHIC

REPRESENTATIVES:

Becky Brakke

Cathy Gilberg

Audrey Naarden

Wendy Palmer

Darlene Robertson

Cris Robinson