

# HNHA Connection

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 8  
AUGUST 2011

August

*"Fairest of the months!  
Ripe summer's queen  
The hey-day of the year  
With robes that gleam  
with sunny sheen  
Sweet August doth appear."  
- R. Combe Miller*

## Dear Highlands North Neighbor,

Highlands North is more than just a place to live. It's families dedicated to creating a safe and vibrant community – making it one of the most desirable neighborhoods in North Dallas.

We take great pride in that we have one of the strongest voluntary associations in the area. We have a long tradition of protecting the interests of residents, and everyone benefits.

Here are some of the recent highlights of what the Highlands North Homeowners Association is doing.

**Curbside Address Painting** – HNHA will assist with the painting of curb addresses helping increase response times in emergency situations.

**Beautification Projects** – This past year, HNHA celebrated the completion of entrance monuments, and the Association continues to undertake projects that enhance our community.

**Expanded Neighborhood Patrol** – The ENP offers increased security patrol to participating households resulting in diminished criminal activity and a safer neighborhood.

**Twin Lakes** – Recognized as one of the "Top 10 Things We Love about Far North Dallas" in January 2011 Advocate Magazine, HNHA maintains the lakes, ducks and fountains of this city owned park.

**HNHA Newsletter** – Monthly publication offers valuable home, pet, garden, and safety tips as well as helps connect by honoring achievements or helping bring attention to a neighbor in need.

**Community Representation** – HNHA actively represents the interests of our neighborhood to ensure the developments of surrounding areas are harmonious with our residential character.

Did you attend the Easter Egg Hunt or the Annual Dinner? These are special occasions when our families get together to play and enjoy each other's company. HNHA hosts these gatherings to help foster the feelings of community that define a real neighborhood from just another place to live. HNHA works to create and maintain good things in our neighborhood. That is a lot of benefit for a modest contribution.

**Please support this good work. Renew your membership or join the Highlands North Homeowners Association by sending your \$75 dues payment and membership form to Carol Ann Miller by September 1.**

Warm regards,  
Jeremy Rosenthal, President  
Highlands North Homeowners Association  
214-724-7065 e-mail: [jeremyrosenthal@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jeremyrosenthal@sbcglobal.net)

PS – Do we have your email? Keep update with what's happening with HNHA emails. It's the quickest (and most cost-efficient!) way for us to keep in touch!

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### Editor

Jacqueline Ferris

### Submissions

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# Around the Neighborhood

## HNHA Annual 4th of July Celebration!



## Around the Neighborhood

### HNHA Membership Drive Reminder

By now you should have received your HNHA and ENP membership forms by mail in a large white envelope. Inside are all the important forms and information you need to be a supporter and involved member of our homeowners association. Please feel free to call Carol Ann Miller (HOA) or Cori Pratt (ENP) with any questions you may have.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT SEPTEMBER 1st IS THE DEADLINE TO PAY YOUR DUES!** We are trying our best to get the directory to you in a more timely fashion, and the **ONLY** way we can do that is to get dues in earlier than in past years. **THANK YOU** for meeting this deadline!

**Carol Ann Miller**  
972-991-7917

**Cori Pratt**  
972-407-0119

### ***Curb Addresses to be Painted!***

The HNHA Board has adopted a resolution to paint curb addresses for homes which currently do not have them painted and to repaint curb addresses for homes whose addresses are partially illegible.

If you do not want your curb number painted at your house address, please let us know by email: [highlandsnorth@hotmail.com](mailto:highlandsnorth@hotmail.com) or **972-661-9018** when you read this notice. Be prepared to give your name, address and phone number if you leave a message. The curbs will be painted as a safety measure for the neighborhood emergency vehicles such as fire, ambulance and police."



**Launch Service - Sunday, August 21, 11:00 a.m.**

**We look forward to being your neighbor!  
Come worship with us!**

 **Prestonwood**  
DALLAS CAMPUS

Or worship with us at  
our Central Campus:  
6801 W. Park Blvd.  
Plano, Texas 75093



**NW Corner of Hillcrest/Willow**  
12123 Hillcrest Road, Dallas, TX 75230 | 972-820-5000 | prestonwood.org/dallas

## Around the Neighborhood

### What's Going on Here!



This is the last of the series focusing on the **Green Space** in our neighborhood. When Highlands North was developed in 1975 it included four "islands" of green space in the area. These spaces are at Carta Valley Circle, Kilbride, Spring Creek and Queensferry. Over the years HN has funded the mowing, trimming of the trees, fertilizing and weed chemical control, and turned on the manual watering system. HN still applies fertilizer to the grass in the spring and applies pre-emergent in the fall. The trees are trimmed on as needed basis and the water is usually turned on weekly. Dallas Streets sub-contract the mowing of the grass every two weeks during the growing season. Even though there is limited use of this area, we do feel the green space is a relief from the concrete street.

Campbell Road has been an important entrance to our neighborhood, and we are fortunate to have side street medians in the 7300 block. The developer planted Bradford Pear trees and Juniper shrubs on the median. Some time back there were some Crape Myrtles planted in the center and side medians by HNHA. The Juniper shrubs became deceased and slowly died. The same problem is occurring with the Bradford Pear trees. As these plants die they will be removed. A few years back, in partnership with Dallas Parks & Recreation, new trees were planted which included Pistachio, Maple, Red Bud and Lacebark Elm. Dallas Streets sub-contract the mowing of the grass every two weeks during growing season.

Since 1998, HNHA has had a cohesive relationship with Richardson City Parks. They have mowed the grass on Coit Road next to the stucco fence since that time. The Assistant Director, Roger Scott, made an offer to HNHA to enter in a Matching Fund Beautification Program with the City of Richardson to improve that green space. The board approved the program and the development began. The landscape architect designed the planting. HN obtained a water meter with the City of Dallas and connected the pipe to the Richardson cut-off valve on Coit. Richardson installed the irrigation and planted the vegetation. At the end of the project, which included the DART bus shelter near Lauder, HNHA expense for this improvement was \$19,000. Richardson Parks maintains the area and HNHA pays the water bill. Pretty amazing that the City of Richardson was willing to enter in this partnership with a homeowner's association in the City of Dallas!!

We have had some difficult issues with Twin Lakes this summer with pond weed, algae, debris in the lakes. We have been working with Dallas Parks to get these problems solved. HNHA funded repair on the north fountain and hopefully it will run more efficiently. Aqua-Shade bluing has been added to both lakes, which is environmentally safe for fish, ducks and other animals.

Saledo wildflowers have seeded so it is time to mow the center section. The trees were trimmed up around the trail and once again the area will become the showplace it was intended to be. Neighborhood volunteers have been pruning the Crape Myrtles and trees along the very popular Preston Ridge Trail.

Happy Summer,  
Susan Carrington, Park and Easement Liaison

#### KITTY FOUND:

A beautiful part-siamese teenage kitty has been living in the front yard of a home in the area where Bantry and Lauder intersect. The homeowner who found the kitty thinks it is female, and it is white and brown with blue eyes. It looks very well taken care of - like it was someone's beloved pet! Please call Susie at: 972-380-0558 if you know where this kitty belongs.



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## Sunshine and Shadows by Jamie Harrison

Don't forget to share your news with your neighbors! Submit your items for publication to Jamie Harrison at: 972-788-8076, or by e-mail to:

[jamie.harrison@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jamie.harrison@sbcglobal.net). If Sunshine and Shadows news is submitted by the **14th of the month**, it will be included in the next month's newsletter!

### *In this month's news:*

**Shadows:** Long time Highlands North resident **Jerry Samuels** of Dundrennan Lane passed away on April 10th after a long battle with pancreatic cancer. His legacy of piano teaching, composing, and performing will keep his memory alive forever. He is survived by wife **Ellen Samuels**, children Amy and Eric, and two grandsons.

**Shadows:** Our condolences to **Adam and Liz Wood** of Dalmalley Lane, and their daughters, **Allison and Leah**. Adam's mother, Roberta "Bobby" Wood, a longtime resident of Garland, passed away on July 8 at the age of 81. Mrs. Wood was employed as a teacher by RISD for 21 years at Hamilton Park and Springridge Elementary Schools.



### *Congratulations to Our Highlands North Graduating Seniors 2011!*

#### *J.J. Pearce High School:*



**Kelsey Lauren Hollowell**, daughter of **Steve and Tammy Hollowell** of Burns Run. Kelsey has been active in National Charity League and has also been president of the Social Committee of the Pacesetter Drill Team. Kelsey will be attending Texas Tech University in the fall, where she will be majoring in elementary and special education.



### SUMMER JOBS WANTED!

The following is a list of neighborhood teens who are looking for summer time employment:

- **Brent Goodwin**, 20 years old, dog sitting, housework, experience raising 3 guide dog puppies. **972-713-7422**
- **Emily Foster**, 15 years old, babysitting. **972-980-9977**
- **Jack Hamilton**, 13 years old, pet sitting/house sitting. **972-233-9369**
- **Katie Hamilton**, 12 years old, babysitting (babysitter certified). **972.233.9369**
- **Sam Harrison**, will be 12 in July - retrieve mail, newspapers, water plants, pet sit, babysit be a mother's/party helper. **972-788-8076**.
- **Ben Harrison**, will be 15 in August, babysit, pet sit, house sit, water plants, and retrieve mail/newspapers, pet sit, or be a mother's/party helper. Ben has passed the Safe Sitter"® certification course. **972-788-8076**.
- **Diane Lusk**, will be 16 in October- Babysitting (Babysitter certified & experienced) Cell: **972-400-0992** Home: **972-774-1718** or [dlusk50@yahoo.com](mailto:dlusk50@yahoo.com)
- **Jenna Lusk**, 14 years old, babysitter; also collect mail, newspapers, and dog sit. Babysitter course certified. **972-774-1718**
- **Grace Mallory**, 14 years old, babysitting. **972-9890-2461**
- **Melissa McAfee**, 15 3/4 years old, is a sophomore at JJ Pearce. House sitting, pet sitting, and baby sitting. Four years of experience, safe sitter certified, and student volunteer at Children's Medical Center and JJ Pearce Special Ed Dept. **972-386-4237** or **469-563-9757**
- **Ryan McAfee**, 11 1/2 years old and is a 6th Grade at Fairhill School. House sitting, pet sitting, and walking. **972-386-4237**
- **Carter Seidel**. 17 years old, complete lawn and landscape programs. **972-316-7275**

## REAL ESTATE TIPS BY JO PRESSLY



### Seven Deadly Credit Score Sins

John Ulzheimer, president of Consumer Education at SmartCredit.com, the credit blogger for Mint.com, is an expert on credit reporting, credit scoring and identity theft.



Formerly with FICO, Equifax and Credit.com, Ulzheimer is a rare editorial source -- a recognized credit expert who actually comes from the credit industry. He often references in his writings the "Seven FICO Deadlies," credit score deflating actions, but only recently identified them in one consolidated list.

Your credit score, from about 350 (poor) to 800 (excellent) is a numerical rendition of your credit report. The higher your score, the more likely you'll get approved for credit and the more likely you'll get the best rate and terms. Negative actions posted to your credit report, take a bite out of your credit score.

Here's what Ulzheimer says are the seven worst things you can do to your credit score. And speaking of "seven," that's how many years these black marks can stay on your credit report.

- **Deadbeat behavior.** Frequent, significant and late payments 30 days, 60 days, 90 days late. Don't believe a 30-day-late payment won't hurt. It may not ruin your credit but it's not helpful and can remain on your report for years.
- **Collection activity.** When the lender gets tired of your deadbeat behavior it will call out the dogs -- a third-party collection agency. The collection agency will report collection activity to the credit bureaus and again, seven years of bad luck.
- **Charge offs.** If the lender gives up on your collection case, acknowledging you'll never pay the bill, it charges off the debt and puts your credit report on notice for seven years.
- **Public recordings.** Bankruptcy, tax liens, judgments and the like are killers for your credit rating. Judgments are good (or, from your viewpoint, bad) for seven years, even if you pay them off. Bankruptcies can dog your credit report for 10 years and unpaid tax liens never go away.
- **Settlements.** If you pay a portion of a debt to your lender in a settlement, say a some of the mortgage in a short sale, you can get a settlement notice on your to your credit report.

- **Foreclosures.** If you can't or won't pay your mortgage the lender will eventually foreclose and relieve you of your home. Another seven year negative notification will drag down your score. The same applies when you give the home to the lender in a deed-in-lieu of foreclosure.
- **Repossession** – When you don't pay your vehicle loans a bounty hunter will be coming your way. He or she is not coming after you, but your vehicle, and that's often without notice, after you've been dunned for a while. It's all legal. The repo man can take your property down and your credit score will follow.

Written by Broderick Perkins



## Honeydo's

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**Phone: 972-250-1749**



## CRIME CORNER BY TODD CUBBAGE

### HNHA Crime Watch Stats–June and July

Remember to be alert and report any crimes to the police first, then to the **hotline 214-967-5120**. Please be sure to leave a name, address and phone number!

### Recently reported crimes in and around Highlands North include:

- On June 23, 2011, an assault was reported in the **16100 block of Meandering Way**
- On June 26, 2011, criminal mischief / vandalism was reported in the **7600 block of Carta Valley Drive**
- On July 7, 2011, a theft was reported in the **16300 block of Dalmalley Lane**
- On July 11, 2011, a theft was reported in the **15400 block of Spring Creek Road**



### PARENTAL GUIDE TO SOCIAL NETWORKING WEBSITES

While we are obviously concerned with personal safety and protection of property, we sometimes unfortunately overlook potential sources of trouble that are not so obvious. Since it is 100+ degrees these days, here are some tips to use if your children are spending more time online in social networks rather than outside:

#### *Talk to your kids about the risks*

Explain that online information and images can live forever, and it can be very hard and sometimes impossible to take down information that is posted (i.e., photos and information may already have been copied and posted elsewhere).

- Tell your children not to post any identifying information online. This includes their cell phone number, address, hometown, school name and anything else that a stranger could use to locate them.
- Explain that anyone in the world can access what they post online. Tell your children that some college admission boards and employers are checking social networking sites before they admit students or hire people.
- Remind your children never to give out their passwords to anyone but you – not even their friends. Explain that if someone has their password, they could post embarrassing and unsafe information about them on their personal pages and even pose as your children to talk to other people.
- Make sure that children understand that some people they meet online may not be who they say they are. Explain that on the Internet many people are not truthful about their identity and may even pretend to be someone else. It's important to stress that young people should never meet people face-to-face that they met online.

### *Protect them from dangers*

- Some social networking sites let users set their profile to private so that only their friends – usually defined as people that know their full name or email address – can contact them. Make sure younger teens profiles are set to private. However, privacy policies have been known to change so stay current with policy updates.
- Go online with your children and have them show you all of their personal profiles. Ask to see some of their friends' profiles, too. If they have a blog or share photos online, ask to see them.
- Treat your children's online activities like you do their offline ones. Ask questions about what they do, who their friends are and if they have made any new friends.
- Set clear rules that you can all agree on regarding what your children are allowed to do online. Make sure you decide if your children are allowed to post photos of themselves and open accounts without your permission.
- If you have an account, make sure they "friend" (and don't "un-friend") you.

### *How can you help them*

- Have your children tell you if they ever see anything online that makes them uncomfortable. Make sure they understand that you won't blame them.
- Ask them to come to you if anything happens online that hurts or scares them. Tell them that you won't punish them by banning them from the Internet – this is a big reason why many kids don't talk to their parents about their online problems.
- Have them come down to 7617 Kilmichael Lane and pull weeds. There is more than enough nutsedge/nutgrass in my yard to go around.

Source (of most of the tips): National Crime Prevention Council ([www.ncpc.org](http://www.ncpc.org))



### DALLAS POLICE & TWITTER

If you follow Dallas Police Department-North Central Division on Twitter (@DallasPD7192), they recently "tweeted" that they will be combining the station's Twitter account with the Dallas Police Department's main Twitter account. If you are interested, you can follow them on Twitter (@DallasPD). However, if you are interested but prefer to see more local activity, you can always access [dallaspolice.net](http://dallaspolice.net) online.

Thanks,  
Todd Cubbage  
HOTLINE: 214.967.5120



## Gardening Tips

Callie's

# Garden Notes

News and Notes for Calloway's &amp; Cornelius Garden Club Members

[Specials](#) | [Ask Us](#) | [Tell Us](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Refer-A-Friend](#) | [Gift Cards](#)


### Timely Tip for August From Calloway's Nursery

Many gardeners are looking for ways to get the most out of gardening and landscape enjoyment while preserving and protecting our environment. Using an organic approach is simply working with Nature to improve the health of the soil. Healthy soil produces healthy plants; healthy plants produce healthy animals and people!

It all begins with the soil. **Organic matter** is important to the soil composition. It aids with drainage and helps increase the soil microbe population. **Expanded shale** is also used to break up hard, compacted clay soils. **Calloway's Organic Fertilizer** contains seven food-grade meals and can be applied to your lawn and other plantings. Top dress your flowerbeds and containers with our **organic mulches**. They not only break down slowly putting organic material back into the soil but, they also prevent weeds, conserve moisture and cool the soil during our hot Texas Summers.

For organic solutions, help keep harmful pests in control by using these products. **Diatomaceous Earth** (D.E.) is a finely ground powder containing skeletal remains of microscopic organisms. D.E. is a natural control for chinch bugs, fire ants, fleas, roaches, slugs, snails and silverfish. **Bacillus thuringiensis** (Bt) is a beneficial bacteria used to kill cabbage loopers and other caterpillars. **Neem oil** is an organic pest control solution which will not harm beneficial insects such as bees and ladybugs. Your vegetable garden and fruit trees can be sprayed right up until the day of harvest. These are all products which are safe to use around pets and children.

Visit [www.calloways.com](http://www.calloways.com) for more gardening tips, information and to become a member of our Garden Club! Also, stop by any of our garden centers and visit with a Texas Certified Nursery Professional. Success in the garden is made fun and easy at Calloway's Nursery!

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

### Upcoming Clinics at Calloway's



### New—Cool Summer Color

- **August 13, 2011—10:15 a.m.**

#### Basic Path and Design Path

Transplant splashes of soothing color into your surroundings and feel that cool breeze! Container gardens can transform patios and landscapes. Add three to five containers of color and place them under trees to create landscape beauty.

#### Learn about flowering plants, that work as companions in container gardens.

*This Saturday morning garden clinic is free. Attend this clinic at any [Calloway's Nursery](#) (Dallas and Fort Worth) or [Cornelius Nursery](#) (Houston) garden center location.*

### STOCK MARKET MAKING YOU JUMPY?

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# HNHA Yards of the Month

The following Homeowner's yards have qualified for the Calloway's Nursery "Good Neighbor" Program. Calloway's will provide them with a \$25 gift certificate to Calloway's.

*Congratulations Homeowners!*

North Side

South Side



J.D. and Susan Bondy—7710 Turnberry



Eric and Rosemary Rasmussen—7817 Glenneagle Dr.

## Good Neighbor Coupon



**\$50 off**

*"That's a nifty savings!"*

a purchase of \$25 or more



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One coupon per customer. Coupon cannot be duplicated. Redeem for merchandise only. No cash value. Must be presented at time of purchase. Not good with other offers, or toward previous purchases. Offer good through December 31, 2011.



## Pet Corner by Zoe Meyer

### Attention Small Pet Owners!

There are a few reasons, at this time, to be vigilant about the whereabouts of your small pet:

1. We have had more coyote sightings in the neighborhood in the evenings and as early as 6:30 am.
2. There have been incidents of animal mutilation reported in the last Crime Watch.

If you have a cat, rabbit, etc., please bring them in the house at night or only allow them in the fenced-in backyard instead of roaming free.

### Bringing A New Dog Home: Teaching Two Dogs To Get Along *Adding a second (or third) dog to the family?*

Choosing a housemate that will be compatible with your current dog is an important consideration for anyone thinking about expanding their family. Before bringing home that cute little puppy or adorable mutt from the local shelter take some time to evaluate the personality, training and history of your current dog(s) and the one that you are considering. Some thoughtful reflection now can spare you unnecessary headaches later.

### Choosing The Right Pet For The Right Reasons

If your dog is active and outgoing, adopt a dog with similar qualities. If your dog is quiet and more reserved, look for a dog that will compliment this type of lifestyle. Try to find out as much information from the adopting agency as possible. Most shelters and rescue groups have some form of temperament testing used to evaluate the dogs in their charge. Look to see that the adoptable dog has been around other dogs before. Most dogs have to "learn" how to get along with each other.

If the dog you are considering has not been socialized properly, it might be best to consider another dog with better social skills. The same goes for your own dog. Even though we tend to think otherwise, it's generally not a good idea to get your current dog a "pet". If and when you do decide to bring a second (or third or fourth) home, make sure you are doing it for you!

### Steps For Introducing New Dogs To Current Family Dogs

1) Don't force your "home team" dog to protect their home turf. If the dogs meet in a neutral location, they are less likely to view the other as an intruder. Start in a neutral zone such as a neighbor's fenced in yard or enclosed park that your resident dog has not visited. Each dog should be on a leash and handled by a separate person.

2) [Positive reinforcement](#) works. You want your dogs to have positive experiences with each other right from the start. Let your dogs sniff each other and greet each other normally. Give them positive reinforcement through calm verbal affirmations. After letting them play for a while,

put both dogs in a "sit" or "stay", then let them interact again. Finally, take them on walks together, allowing them to sniff each other along the way.

3) Play close attention to the both dog's body posture. Watch out for body postures that show a defensive response. Defensive body postures include hair standing up the back, teeth-baring, deep growls, a stiff legged gait or a prolonged stare. If a dog goes into these postures, immediately switch into positive reinforcement mode and get your dog to follow your teachings. Let your dogs interact again, shorten the distance between the two.

4) Once your dogs seem to be tolerating each other, it's time to bring them home. Whether they ride in the same car or not is really a judgment call on how well you think they are getting along and the size of your car or SUV. We have found that allowing the new dog to enter the home first can reduce the chance of your family dog feeling that they need to "protect their turf".

### Special Advice For Helping New Puppies Get Along With Adult Dogs

As anyone with a puppy can tell you, they can often be a handful. Also, because puppies are still learning, they usually wind up bothering adult dogs to no end. Puppies simply have trouble recognizing that their actions are bothering adult dogs. Most adult dogs with good temperaments will growl or snarl at recklessly playful puppies in order to set boundaries of acceptable behavior. This is normal and is actually a positive thing. However, never allow a puppy and an adult dog to be left alone together, for the safety of both dogs. Also give your adult dog plenty of time away from the puppy, and try to give them some quality time alone with you and your family whenever time permits.

Never allow your puppy and the adult dog to eat out of the same [dog bowl](#), as this may lead to resource guarding. Feeding each dog in a separate [dog crate](#) is a great way to keep food fights to a minimum. This is also true if you give your dogs raw bones or chews.

### More Resources

If your dogs are not getting along, please do not punish your dogs. Punishing dogs for their normal reactions to each other actually hinder their progress. Instead, contact a professional dog trainer to help assist you. Adding a new dog to the family can be a fun experience for everyone and if you approach it with a positive mindset (and some patience) your dogs should be pals in no time. To find a dog trainer near you, visit the [Association of Pet Dog Trainers](#) web site.



### You're Gone, "Doggone" Pet Sitting Service

Cathy Hall

All Pet Sitting	Bonded, Insured, References
Dog Obedience	972-713-8539
Walking, Transport	972-814-3999
Other Services	<a href="http://www.doggonepetsit.net">www.doggonepetsit.net</a>
PSI Member	<a href="mailto:bingodog@prodigy.net">bingodog@prodigy.net</a>

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Dallas Highlands North  
Homeowners Association

P.O. Box 837143  
Richardson, Texas 75083-7143

We're on the Web!  
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*Once-Weekly Collection  
Service for Garbage and  
Recycling:*

*North Side—Tuesdays*

*South Side—Mondays*

*Bulky Trash Pick-up the Week of:*

*August 4th*



# HNHA CALENDAR

## August 2011



*August 4th*

*Brushy Trash Pick-Up*

*(Earliest set out date is Thursday, July 28th)*

*August 8th*

*HNHA Board Meeting*

*August 22nd*

*RISD—1st Day of School*

