

# HNHA Connection

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 2010

Buon giorno!

To all Highlands North Members ~

You are invited to the social event of the season. Your presence is desired at our Annual Fall Banquet and Meeting at Maggiano's Restaurant located at the northwest corner of Park and the Tollway in Plano on Sunday, September 26th, 2010 From 6:00 to 8:30 PM.

There will be a delicious dinner, cash bar and for your listening pleasure Ellis Island will entertain us.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Number of attendants at \$25 each \_\_\_\_\_ Total \_\_\_\_\_

Checks payable to HNHA by September 19th.

Send to: Marcia Weiss—7618 Dunoon

Questions? Call 972/387-2991



*See Page 2 for information about available childcare during the Annual Fall Banquet and Meeting!*

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# Around the Neighborhood



## What's Going On Here?

Dallas parks have pulled back their mowing cycle to every 3 weeks and there are Town Hall meetings going on now to inform the residents of the cut back in maintenance for the Dallas parks department beginning in October. There is a possibility the grass will only be mowed every 3-4 weeks next season and the liter will be picked up less often in the trash cans w. **If you were able to attend the Town Hall meetings, you know that without an increase in property taxes, donated funds or other sources there will not be enough money available to maintain the areas as they were the past years.**

The streets department's subcontractor has continued to mow the median on Campbell and the four green islands in our neighborhood at Queensferry, Kilbride, Spring Creek and Carta Valley every two weeks. The water sprinkler system has manually been turned on the four islands at the times allotted for irrigation with the Dallas Water Utilities. Even though the turf is under stress, it should survive through this hot, dry period. The street department will cut down the two dead Bradford Pear trees on the side median near Meandering Way. The Bradford Pear trees were planted by the developer over 30 years ago and they have outlived their normal expectancy.

We are having problems with the north fountain which Lone Star Fountains maintains. HNHA has funded the service for both of the fountains, which is quite costly. The algae growth becomes a problem when the water temperature is 98 degrees. At that time, the spraying with chemicals is limited because it will lower the oxygen level and we would have "fish kill."

On the bright side, the small trees (redbud, crepe myrtles, youpon holly, etc) seem to be holding up in the 100 degree weather without any watering. After the two year scheduled watering schedule, the trees are on their own to survive.

Looking for rain,

Susan Carrington, Liaison for Parks/Easement

2432 Preston Road,  
(NE Corner of Park & Preston)  
Plano, TX 75093  
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Adventure Kids is waving their normal one time membership fee and cutting their hourly rate— savings per child—\$55.00!

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Number of Kids (\$15.00 each) \_\_\_\_\_ Check Amt. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: *Adventure Kids*

Return this form and check to Marcia Weiss—7616 Dunoon Avenue

**\* Please note that we must have at least 20 kids.** Reservations and payment are required at least one week in advance.

In the event that we are unable to provide 20 children or more, all payments will be returned immediately.

## Around the Neighborhood

### Plugging into the North Dallas Democratic Party

The Far North Dallas Democrats meets at Sonny Bryan's on Campbell Road in the private dining room on the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Programs feature candidates and legislative issues. Food is ordered individually. For more information, visit [www.farnorthdallasdemocrats.org](http://www.farnorthdallasdemocrats.org) and/or contact Janice Schwarz at [janiceschwarz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:janiceschwarz@sbcglobal.net): 214-460-7283.

North Dallas Texas Democratic Women meets at the Northhaven United Methodist Church on the fourth Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Programs feature candidates and legislative issues. For more information, visit [www.nddw.org](http://www.nddw.org) and/or contact Carol Jablonski at [caroljablonski@tx.rr.com](mailto:caroljablonski@tx.rr.com): 972-248-7639.

To receive the weekly e-mail newsletter of all activities of the Dallas County Democratic Party, send your email address to: [roundup@dallasdemocrats.org](mailto:roundup@dallasdemocrats.org).



### IMPORTANT - SECURITY ALARM INFORMATION!

Did you know that if your City of Dallas alarm permit has EXPIRED the 911 dispatcher will NOT send an officer to your home if your alarm goes off while you are away?! If you do not know if your permit has expired (like me!), call the Dallas Alarm Unit at 214-671-4120 or Collections at 214-670-3438 to find out. The city changed its procedure for sending out permit collection notices, and some of our residents did not receive one last year. IF YOU ARE NOT SURE, CALL THE NUMBER AND FIND OUT! If your permit is expired, you will be given several options for making a payment, one of which is to go to [www.dallascityhall.com](http://www.dallascityhall.com), click on "Security Alarm Permits" in the left hand column and download the form.

Obviously, if YOU call 911 from your home when your alarm goes off the police will respond! However, if your alarm company calls 911 because you are NOT at home to answer, an expired permit will cause them not to send out an officer. Always be aware of your permit's status. *Most alarm companies require you to keep your permit up-to-date as well, so they may be able to tell you the status of your permit as well.*

Questions? Call Cori Pratt at 972-407-0119

### HOA AND ENP ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVES!

**DEADLINE SEPTEMBER 15TH!**

Get a \$20 discount on your ENP dues by joining BOTH by this deadline!

You should have received your membership packet in July. If you need more information, go to [www.highlandsnorth.com](http://www.highlandsnorth.com) and download the applications, or call Carol Ann Miller at 972-991-7917 (HOA) or Cori Pratt 972-407-0119 (ENP).

Thank you for making our neighborhood GREAT by joining!

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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 14<sup>th</sup> of the month, it will be included in the next month's newsletter!

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

**Sunshine:** Bert and Kathleen Simon of Carta Valley Drive were among a handful of Far North Dallas residents who were recently featured in an article in the August 2010 issue of the *Advocate* magazine entitled "Channeling History: Far North Dallas Residents Recall Events that Shaped their Lives and Changed the World." The article discusses Bert and Kathleen's witnessing of the historical inauguration of the country's first black president, as well as their being perhaps the only Texans at the exclusive "Home States Ball" for President Obama's supporters from Illinois and Hawaii, which was held the night of the inauguration. The article also mentions that Bert, who is originally from Chicago, has been active in politics since college, and that Bert's brother Roger, who still lives in Chicago, became friends with President Obama nearly twenty years ago, when President Obama was running for the Illinois State Senate.

**Sunshine:** Natasha Bredehoft, daughter of Liz and Armando Medina of Queens Garden Drive, was married on August 6 to James Brandt of Colleyville. The couple was married in Nancy's Garden, located at the Dallas Arboretum. Rosa and Veronica Medina were the Maid of Honor and Bridesmaid to their sister, respectively. Following a honeymoon in Costa Rica, the couple will reside in Dallas.



*Newlyweds—Natasha Bredehoft and James Brandt*

**Sunshine:** After training with the Under 17 Mexican women's national team for over eight weeks this summer, Rosa Medina, daughter of Liz and Armando Medina of Queens Garden Drive, was recently selected to be on the roster for their World Cup team! They have played exhibition matches against Venezuela and several colleges in Florida. Rosa's hard work has paid off, earning her a starting goalkeeper spot on the squad. The U-17 World Cup begins September 5 in Trinidad and Tobago, and games will be televised on both Galavision and ESPNU. You can also find updates on the website at: <http://www.fifa.com/u17womensworldcup/index.html>. Rosa is a senior at J.J. Pearce High School. Congratulations Rosa!

**Sunshine:** Congratulations to Siena Copeland, daughter of Bert and Lola Copeland of Queens Garden Drive, and Lauren Davenport, daughter of Bruce and Glenda Davenport of Lauder Lane! Siena and Lauren's 4th grade girls basketball team, the United Ballers, recently won their AAU (American Athletic Union) Girls Basketball National Championships, held in Branson, Missouri. There were 27 teams in the tournament. The United Ballers played Cincinnati's Finest for the championship, and won by 3 points!



*The United Ballers*

*Sienna Copeland—2nd Row, 2nd from Left (Standing)*

**Sunshine:** The Texas Education Agency recently confirmed that the Richardson ISD has earned a Recognized rating for 2010 under the Texas accountability system. This is the fifth consecutive year RISD has earned the rating. RISD is the largest, most diverse district in Texas to have achieved Recognized status for five consecutive years. In addition, every RISD campus received a rating of either Exemplary (42 schools), or Recognized (11 schools).



## Sunshine and Shadows

By Jamie Harrison



### Congratulations to Our Highlands North Graduating Seniors 2010!

#### South Texas College of Law:

**Jaclyn Simon**, daughter of **Bert and Kathleen Simon** of Carta Valley Drive. Jaclyn graduated with a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from the South Texas College of Law in Houston. She is a 2000 graduate of J.J. Pearce High School, and a 2004 graduate of the University of Texas at Austin.



## Neighbor Spotlight

By Susan Carrington

The following article is the first of a new series that will "Spotlight" a Highlands North Neighbor. If you know someone in the neighborhood who has an interesting job, volunteer position, etc. please let us know and we will spotlight them in our Highlands North Newsletter! This month Susan Carrington is "Spotlighting" Julie and Bill Evans!



Long-time Highlands North residents, Julie and Bill Evans, are living their passion working at the Dallas Zoo. Julie has been a docent and researcher at the zoo since 1987. Bill was a volunteer on the Dallas Zoological Society board and treasurer since the mid-90's. When the City of Dallas approached the DZS about taking over management of the zoo (privatizing), they needed someone with the expertise to do it. Bill filled the bill! For the last several years he was Director of Administration for Vinson and Elkins, a law firm in Dallas. Managing people and finances were right up his alley. He accepted the position of Deputy Director of Administration and took off running. The privatization, which normally takes one year to complete, was done in 45 days. He says, and Julie agrees, that he is working harder than ever before and loving every minute - or almost every minute! Julie was a little concerned about his cramping her style (and supervising her friends on the zoo staff) but she loves having him there. "We even have lunch together occasionally," she says.

Julie continues her volunteer work as a gorilla guide and researcher for okapi and elephant. The zoo is building a herd of elephants for the new exhibit, Giants of the Savanna, and she loves watching and recording behaviors of the five new elephants who have come to live with Jenny.

It is a dream come true for both of them.



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## CRIME CORNER BY JEREMY ROSENTHAL

### HNHA Crime Watch Stats— August 2010

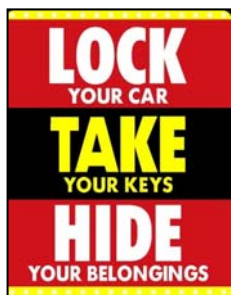
Remember to be alert and report any crimes to the police first, then to the **hotline 214-967-5120**. Please be sure to leave a name, address and phone number!

#### Recent Crimes in Highlands North

Recently reported crimes in and around Highlands North include:

- On July 16, vandalism was reported in the **16000 block of Fallkirk**;
- On July 17, a missing person was reported in the **7800 block of Scotia**;
- On July 21, a theft was reported in the **16000 block of Fallkirk**;
- On July 23, a theft was reported in the **16000 block of Cleary**;
- On August 7, a burglary was reported in the **7600 block of Dornoch**;
- On August 10, a vehicle break-in was reported in the **7600 block of Lairds**;

#### TIPS AND ADVICE ON PREVENTING VEHICLE BREAK-INS



Approximately \$1.255 billion in personal items and accessories are stolen from vehicles in about 1.85 million thefts every year. These crimes of opportunity are a problem for both citizens and law enforcement, but there are things that you can do to help prevent **BMV**, Burglary of a Motor Vehicle. Here are some common-sense habits for protecting your vehicle:

#### **Lock your doors**

This one is a no-brainer but studies estimate ¼ of all car break-ins were from unlocked cars.

#### **Keep your car tidy**

Unfortunately items you leave out can be bait for thieves. Obviously never leave anything of value exposed. Even an empty container, bag, or cloth can cause someone to think there is something of value concealed. The burglar may find out nothing was in the backpack after-all – but only after he's smashed your window! For cars with open-cargo spaces consider a retractable cover to conceal your property from plain view.

#### **Close windows and sunroofs**

Keeping them open may de-activate pressure sensors in your cars alarm system. Experienced car thieves know this.

#### **Get a car alarm**

Many cars come with them today but some people assume if their car has remote entry that it also has an alarm. Car alarms are generally ignored in busy parking lots or even public streets – but it's attention a thief doesn't want.

#### **Stick with the original audio system**

There isn't much after-market value for factory-installed audio systems. By installing another audio system you are making your car a target.

#### **Park in visible areas**

Avoid parking in areas where a thief has cover and concealment to break in. This includes isolated places, dark places, by bigger vehicles or by heavy foliage. Park in well lit areas making sure your vehicle is visible.

#### **Theft prevention devices**

Devices like "The Club," steering column collars, or brake/ pedal locks may not be invulnerable, but remember that most thieves are looking for the path of least resistance when they're breaking into a car. At the very least these items may deter theft.

**Remember the LOCK, TAKE, HIDE strategy is your best crime-fighting tool against BMV.** LOCK your doors, TAKE your keys, and HIDE any valuables out of sight.

Jeremy Rosenthal  
Highlands North Crime Watch Coordinator  
HOTLINE 214-967-5120

# REAL ESTATE TIPS

BY JO PRESSLY



Dear Homeowner,

Because there are so many first time homeowners and people who have just moved to Texas, this topic is very important in the current hot dry weather. A foundation watering system is necessary. Walk the property to check the foundation for separation or concrete cracks.

Residential service companies do not cover foundations, but soil integrity around foundations can affect systems that we do cover. If the foundation shifts, it can cause plumbing leaks or breaks that are not normal wear and tear.

Solutions:

- After you water the lawn, also water the foundation.
- 1<sup>st</sup> solution: Install a buried foundation watering system.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> solution : Bury a soaker hose three inches deep and one foot from the edge of your foundation.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> solution : Rotate a soaker hose around the perimeter of the home to maintain moisture in the soil around the house and foundation.
- DO NOT place the hose against the foundation. If soil is dried and cracked, the water will drop to the lowest point of the cracks and accumulate at the bottom of the grade beam (the thick part that is under the exterior walls).
- You need enough water to keep the deep soil wet all the time. If only the surface is damp, your watering program is not working.

- **Your water bill may rise- but you will be saving money by avoiding foundation or plumbing problems later.**

I will be glad to take emails from people as to why you need one!

Source: Nations Home Warranty

Jo Pressly, Vice President of Sales  
 Founding Associate  
 Virginia Cook, Realtors  
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[www.northdallasrealtoronline.com](http://www.northdallasrealtoronline.com)



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# Gardening Tips

**Callie's Garden Notes**  
 News and notes for Calloway's & Cornelius Garden Club Members

• Specials • Ask Us • Tell Us • Update Profile • Refer a Friend • Gift Card

## Pumpkin Butter is Back!

The Fall season is just around the corner and back by popular demand for a short time is our **Pumpkin Butter**. This special treat has been deliciously described as "liquid gingerbread" and is a must-have for the holidays. Spread over muffins, hot pancakes, or warm French toast, for that spicy sweetness usually reserved for the harvest holidays. Give your oatmeal a little zing with a swirl of our **Pumpkin Butter**, or drop a dollop in your morning latte for a surprisingly good combination of flavors! For a unique and delectable appetizer, slather a layer atop a wedge of brie and serve with crackers. Our **Pumpkin Butter** makes wonderful gifts for teachers, family or friends.



Orders can be placed online until August 23rd and will be shipped to the store of your choice. Pre-orders must be made in full case quantities (12 jars) at a discount of \$1 per jar. Order today for late September delivery!

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



## Upcoming Clinics at Calloways

- September 11, 2010:**
  - Tree Planting (10:15 am)
- September 18, 2010:**
  - Fall Lawn Care (10:15 am)
- September 25, 2010:**
  - Fall Color Creations (10:15 am)
- September 18, 2010:**
  - Fall Lawn Care (10:15 am)

*All Clinics are Free!*

## Good Neighbor Coupon



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723

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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.

# 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!***

**The North Side Yard of the Month listed in the newsletter last month was incorrect—our apologies! Tammy and David Cobb at 7720 Pennyburn were the winners for August's Newsletter! Please see photo below.**



Tammy & David Cobb - 7720 Pennyburn

North Side

South Side



Lynne and Ray Galarneau—7621 Dunoon



Ted and Nicky Wilson—16314 Fallkirk Drive



## Pet Corner by Zoe Meyer

### **🐾 Obesity in Pets**

Just like people, pets can become "a little too healthy". :-)) All kidding aside, obese pets can have serious health problems - including arthritis, heart and respiratory problems, and shorter life spans. Your pet is overweight if you cannot feel his ribs or backbone when you lightly run your hands over him. Although it's no doubt hard to ignore the pleading eyes of your adoring pet, it's best to turn away and not give in to his pleas for more food.

**Use feeding guides as a recommendation only.** Pet food packages will often recommend how much to feed your pet. However, this really depends on your pet's age, activity level, and size. Use your own judgment.

**Try not to use the "free-feed" method.** In other words, resist leaving food out for your pet all day long. This can contribute to overeating.

**Provide your pet with more exercise.** Take him out for an extra little walk, or play with her in the house for half an hour. Every little bit helps.

**Severe weight loss or gain should be checked by your vet.** If you think you're feeding your pet adequately but he loses weight, or your pet suddenly starts gaining weight, consult with your vet.

**Older and overweight pets may be switched to special diets.** There are lots of high-quality pet food formulated especially for senior pets, as well as plenty of low-calorie diets. You may want to consult with your vet to get recommendations.

### **🐾 Pet Adoption: Preparing for A New Pet**

Before you bring your new friend home, it's best to be prepared to prevent unnecessary confusion and stress.

**Establish the rules.** Decide who's responsible for what: grooming, feeding, exercising, cleaning, play-time, and so on. Also establish whether or not there will be areas that are "off-limits" for your new pet. For example, you may not want your pet to sleep on the bed.

**Have all the necessary supplies ready.** Examples are food, food and water bowls, leash or harness, collar and identification, brush, and so on. Take a look at the [cat budget](#) or the [dog budget](#) for more information.

**Pet-proof your home.** Some things you may want to consider include:

**Lock away household chemicals,** such as cleansers, insecticide, antifreeze, and others. Animals are especially attracted to antifreeze; be sure to clean up spills immediately and keep the rest out of reach as even a small amount can be fatal.

**Place houseplants out of reach.** Many houseplants are poisonous.

**Have separate areas for your new pet and any existing pets.** Pets need to be introduced to one another slowly; be sure you have an extra room or a kennel so that your pets can be separated until they have grown accustomed to each other

**Tie electrical cords out of the way, if you can.** Dogs and cats can chew on electrical cords - or even catch them while walking (or running!) around, causing lamps, TVs, radios, etc. fall.

**Keep doors closed** - this includes the doors to your washer and dryer, your closets, the cupboards ... inquisitive little animals can sneak in just about anywhere.

**Keep household trinkets out of your pet's reach.** Stuff like garbage, medicine, pins, elastics, thread, needles, and so on should be placed out of the way.

**Make sure everyone knows how to properly handle your pet.** Everyone should know how to safely pick up your pet. Also emphasize certain rules such as your pet should never be disturbed while eating. **Keep other pets away at first.** Your new pet may be nervous ... help him or her feel more comfortable by keeping your other pets confined until you are ready to slowly introduce them. Source: [Pet Tips from PawsperousPets.com](#)

### **Prestonwood Pet Clinic**

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- V.P. Safety & Beautification**—Todd Cabbage (214) 686-1577
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- Consumer File**—Ann Brandt (972) 392-0805
- Crime Watch Hotline**—Jeremy Rosenthal (214)724-7065
- Data Base**—Liz Wood (972) 385-7601
- Directory**— Liz Wood (972) 385-7601
- Home Tour**— Kim Miller (972) 386-3308
- Newcomers North**—Marcia Weiss (972) 387-2991
- Newcomers South**— Connie Wilcoxon (972) 980-4052
- Newsletter**— Jacqueline Ferris (972) 239-9890 or email: [jaqueferris@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jaqueferris@sbcglobal.net)
- Park and Easement Liaison**—Susan Carrington (972) 661-9018

**Social:**

- Fall Dinner/Annual Meeting**—Marcia Weiss (972) 387-2991
- Easter Egg Hunt**—Tina Cox (972) 934-4925
- Ladies Luncheon & Fashion Show**—Lisa Althaus (972) 934-0128
- 4th of July Picnic**—March Baremore (972) 386-5448
- Sunshine and Shadows**—Jamie Harrison (972) 788-8076
- Volunteers In Patrol**—Mel Shapiro - (972) 934-0397
- Yard of the Month North**—Marcia Weiss (972) 387-2991  
 South—Hertha Hughes (972) 458-7150



**ADVERTISING....**

Do you own a business or have something to sell? Are you interested in reaching over 500 households? Did you know that the HNHA Monthly Newsletter offers great ad rates for HNHA Members AND Non-Members too?

E-mail Jackie Ferris for ad rates and more information at: [jaqueferris@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jaqueferris@sbcglobal.net)



**HNHA HOTLINES**

- Consumer File**—Ann Brandt (972) 392-0805
- Crime Watch Hotline**—(214) 967-5120  
[highlandsnorth@hotmail.com](mailto:highlandsnorth@hotmail.com)
- HNHA Info Line**—(972) 404-HNHA (4642)  
*Information Only—Please do not leave a message.*
- Pet Hotline**—(972) 967-PETS (7387)  
[hnhapets@hotmail.com](mailto:hnhapets@hotmail.com)

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CHEAPER THAN THE "GEEKS"

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Homeowners Association

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*Bulky Trash Pick-up the Week of:*

***September 6th***

## HNHA CALENDAR September 2010

*September 6th*

*September 6th*

*September 13th*

*September 22nd*

*Labor Day Holiday*

*Week of Bulky Trash Pick-Up*

*(Do not set out before Thursday, September 2nd)*

*HNHA Board Meeting*

*1st Day of Fall*

