



### HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

# Neighborhood Crime

NHHA Members have a regular source of current information on crime in Northwood Hills, through Member Mails, Security Snapshots and the occasional Crime Alert. NHHA's crime chair, Glynn Newman, follows crime in the neighborhood closely, as well as crime in adjacent areas. In addition, crime statistician Judy Switzer keeps a tally of criminal incidents in Northwood Hills, and follows up personally with NHHA Members who have been victimized by crime.

Although Members get additional detail, everyone in Northwood Hills can benefit from knowing how the crime rate is moving this year. Overall incidents have been relatively low in 2012. However, there are some emerging trends, not only in Northwood Hills but throughout North Dallas.

First, the majority of crimes continue to be crimes of opportunity. Second, the nature of the incidents appears to be related somewhat to current economic conditions. Like other neighborhoods, Northwood Hills has seen its share of "smash and grabs" and car vandalism this year. These are crimes that were just a little too tempting for the night-crawlers. In other words, those folks roaming the streets in the middle of the night found something in plain view they simply could not live without. The police believe these criminals are, by and large, teenagers.

Additionally, we have seen an increase in crimes associated with homes that are (or appear to be) vacant due to being on the market or under renovation, as well as homes adjacent to those being remodeled. While we won't know who the perpetrators are unless they are caught, there has been an increase in remodel activity in the last eighteen months, and

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NHHA received an email from a Member questioning why planes fly over Northwood Hills when they are not supposed to do so.

What most people would consider a "no-fly zone" is termed by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) a "Prohibited Area." Prohibited Areas are published in the Federal Register and at http://sua.faa.gov. Prohibited airspace refers to airspace within which flight of aircraft is not allowed, usually due to security concerns.

There is NO prohibited airspace over or near Northwood Hills.

NHHA contacted Darci Neuzil, deputy director of Addison Airport, to respond to some of Northwood Hills residents' most common questions and provide additional information.

Q: The ongoing development and traffic around Northwood Hills is a negative to some residents. What role does Addison Airport play?

A: North Texas region has one of the largest concentrations of aviation-related businesses in the world, with two air carrier airports and 11 general aviation and/or reliever airports. These airports continued page 4



HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

Northwood Hills Homeowners Association P O Box 800874 Dallas, TX 75380-0874

### The Not-So-Lazy Days of Summer Real Estate Review – July 2012

by Judy Switzer

Since the Spring issue of the Breeze newsletter, real estate sales have continued to hum along in Northwood Hills. Since April 30, 2012, we have had 12 homes sell in the neighborhood. That means that through mid-July, we have a total of 28 sales. This compares to just 25 sales through the end of July 2011. As this issue goes to press, we have one listing under contract with a kick-out clause (KO), two listings that are Active Option and another one that is Pending. While we have no way of knowing exactly when the homes under contract will close, we should anticipate that at least a couple of them will close by the end of July. If that happens, we would be 20 percent ahead in year-over-year sales.

The year-to-date SOLDs range in price from \$189,000 to \$1,099,000Z, with an average price/ft of \$132.48. This is up from \$131.12/sq ft one year ago. We currently have 28 active listings, up from 26 at the end of April, but down substantially from this time last year, when the number of homes for sale in Northwood Hills was 45.

The average dollars/sq ft is up slightly over last year, but because our homes have such a wide range of value – influenced by location, lot size and the degree to which a property has been updated -- averages can lose meaning. The SOLD \$\$/foot range from \$72.89/sq ft to \$210.92/sq ft. Given that broad range, it is a little like analyzing the average temperature in the United States on Christmas Day. It is a nice number, but doesn't tell us much about the highs and lows in different parts of the country.

The same is true of our range of values. When we analyze individual sales compared to homes sold since the economic downturn, we see many more homes selling in excess of \$150/ft. That wasn't happening in 2009-2011. Since the beginning of the year, 10 homes sold between \$150-\$210/sq ft. Some of what drives this is the condition of the homes that are on the market. However, there were 12 to 18 months in the early part of this last recession, when those buyers were sitting on the proverbial fence, too uncertain to make a decision.

So 2012 is shaping up to be a good year for Northwood Hills real estate. Homes that are priced competitively are getting continued page 3

### Real Estate

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lots of showings and selling quickly. I expect that trend to continue with the normal seasonal slowdowns we experience for a few weeks as families prepare for back-to-school, and then again during the holidays.

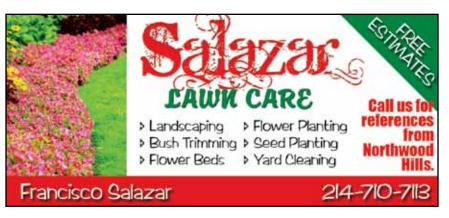
If you have any questions regarding the information, please do not hesitate to call Judy Switzer, Broker/Owner, of Judy Switzer & Associates, at 214-801-7273.

One of the great amenities of Northwood Hills is its central location. Look for the side**note** icon for a wide range of festivals and events – some just blocks away.









# NHHA Leadership

Rebel Webster – President Communications president@northwoodhills.org 214-866-0155

> John Mottram – Secretary Area 4 Director jm@northwoodhills.org 214-543-1855

Bob Nance – Treasurer bn@northwoodhills.org 469-233-0857

Glynn Newman – Area 1Director Security & Crimewatch gn@northwoodhills.org 469-223-3582

Rich Prendergast – Area 2 Director Membership rp@northwoodhills.org 972-980-2988

> Dane Smith – Area 3 Director Walls Special Project ds@northwoodhills.org 972-489-7920

John Mottram – Area 4 Director Curb Painting jm@northwoodhills.org 214-543-1855

Ron Skipper – Area 5 Director Beautification rs@northwoodhills.org 214-263-9343

Ed Fikse – At Large Director Security Cameras ef@northwoodhills.org 972-661-3921

Candace Winslow – At Large Director Membership cw@northwoodhills.org 214-642-4541

Judy Switzer Security & Crime Statistician js@northwoodhills.org 2144-801-7273

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play an important role in the region's economy, serving as a stimulus for development and growth. Some of the region's largest employers, along with many small businesses, rely on the aviation related services these airports provide. The airports support thousands of jobs and generate millions of dollars in economic activity. Addison Airport is one of the busiest general aviation airports in Texas.

### Q: What kind of airport is Addison Airport?

A: Addison Airport is a general aviation reliever airport. It does not offer scheduled airline service. As a reliever airport, its goal is to remove the smaller and slower aircraft from the regional air traffic that would cause major congestion at commercial airports.

### Q: Is air traffic increasing?

A: The aircraft operations at Addison and across the nation have actually decreased. Ten years ago, the airport was averaging 160,000 operations annually. In 2011 aircraft operations at Addison Airport were just over 95,000. So the numbers indicate that there has not been an increase in traffic.

O: What about noise over residential neighborhoods?

A: Addison Airport is home to more than 700 aircraft and approximately 250 of those are jets. This number has remained

# Neighborhood Crime

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although that suggests a better economic climate, it has a downside as well – an increase of sub-contractors, vendors and workers in the neighborhood.

Finally, the LBJ construction has pushed additional traffic to our major thoroughfares, and as those become congested, onto our neighborhood streets. Again, this is not neighbor traffic but rather strangers passing through. Keep that in mind as you come and go during the day. Lock up and turn on your alarm. Be aware of your surroundings and talk to your neighbors about keeping an eye out for each other. Increased vigilance and a concentrated effort on our part can make Northwood Hills just too much trouble for criminals, and encourage them to move their activities to another neighborhood.

NHHA Member dues pay for the security patrol, surveillance cameras, and security signage. Take a "crime inventory" of your home and your habits, and become a Member today. You'll enjoy the peace of mind that you are doing all in your power to reduce your chances of becoming a victim. If you have questions about crime incidents in Northwood Hills, contact Judy Switzer at js@northwoodhills. org or Glynn Newman at gn@northwoodhills.org.





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Red oaks -- especially Spanish oak, Shumard oak and blackjack oak -- are especially susceptible to oak wilt. Oak wilt can kill a live oak within six to 12 months and a red oak in just four to eight weeks.





# **NHHA Begins** Oak Wilt Mapping **Project**

Northwood Hills Homeowners Association has begun a project to map outbreaks of oak wilt in Northwood Hills, as part of an ongoing effort to educate residents about the infectious tree disease.

If you have had a confirmed case of oak wilt in the past four years, please email rw@northwoodhills. org. Information regarding the diagnosis, treatment, number and types of oaks affected, and additional detail about your situation will help us monitor and begin to track the spread of oak wilt. Your name and specific address will not be made public; NHHA is mapping locations by block numbers.

One of the most destructive tree diseases in the US, oak wilt can devastate whole neighborhoods and result in millions of dollars in property loss.

NHHA spoke with David Wong, the City of Dallas arborist who works the Northeast District and includes Northwood Hills, about the scale and concentration of oak wilt in the area. Wong explained that, so far, the problem is nothing like what areas of Austin and the Hill Country have experienced, where some areas have lost 75 to 90 percent of their oak trees.

"We're very fortunate," he said. "It's not on that scale here, and hopefully it won't be."

But he cautioned that residents continued page 7



Live oaks have large, interconnected root systems that stretch across yards and under streets, and the oak wilt fungus can spread through these roots to adjacent trees. This is why it is common to see several affected live oaks within a short distance.

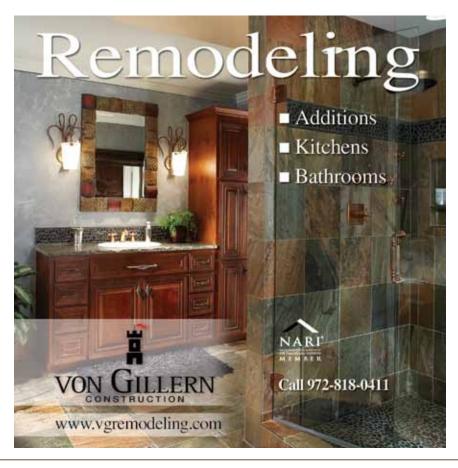
### Oak Wilt Dos and Don'ts

What do we do?

- 1. DO stay informed. NHHA communicates regularly about oak wilt to Members via MemberMail and to the entire neighborhood through the Breeze newsletter.
- 2. DON'T trim oak trees during the oak wilt danger season which is usually February 14 through mid-June.
- 3. If your tree is damaged by a storm or wind and you must remove a limb, DO make sure it is treated immediately with a tree wound or latex paint
- 4. DON'T take a chance. If you think your oak tree may have a disease, call a certified arborist for an opinion. Don't rely on your "yard guy" to accurately diagnose oak wilt. An arborist will assess your tree(s) and if oak wilt is confirmed will advise you on the best way to contain the spread to your (or your neighbors') other trees.
- 5. If you have oak wilt, DO let us know. Email rw@northwoodhills.org or call Rebel Webster at 214/866-0155.







# Oak Wilt Mapping

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who have oak trees in their yards should be well-informed about oak wilt, and watch their trees closely.

"The only time treatment can effectively save a tree is when the disease is caught early. Many homeowners look at their tree, see some die back and assume all is well. By the time the symptoms really get their attention, the tree is too far gone and treatments such as trenching or fungicide injection are pointless."

Is it safe to prune now? NHHA's consulting arborist Alan Johnson is reluctant to give a complete "all-clear."

"It's safer now than it was in the spring," says Alan. "But in your neighborhood, winter is still best."

### Oak Wilt Facts

Oak wilt has been found in over 60 counties and in almost every city in Central Texas, as well as, Abilene, Midland, Lubbock, Dallas, Ft. Worth, College Station, Houston, and San Antonio. It can be a problem wherever live oaks tend to be the predominate tree.

Oak wilt was first confirmed in Dallas in 1961.

It does not matter whether the oaks are transplanted or naturally grown. An individual tree's age and size does not make it more or less likely to contract or die from oak wilt.

For more information, visit http://txforestservice.tamu.edu.

# How Do We Top It Next Year?

A nice breeze billowed flags, banners and bunting as Northwood Hills residents enjoyed the 19th Annual Northwood Hills Homeowners Association Independence Day Parade and Celebration.

Len and Alice Thomas' "Big Red" fire truck led off the parade, followed by State Representative Stefani Carter, chauffeured by Jerry Ragsdale, and new NHE principal Roxxy Griffin, driven by Randy Testut and escorted by students and PTA parents.

Vintage cars, floats, four-wheelers, trikes, bikes and strollers all joined together in a rolling celebration of America's freedom. Many of Northwood Hills' four-legged residents got in on the fun, and then later cooled off in the "Paws for Refreshment" tent.

Although NHHA hosts the event, it takes many volunteers to make the parade a success. Big thanks to Craig Henderson, who started early with set-up, moved on to serve as a judge, and then stayed for tear-down and clean-up.

Shirley Westdyke teamed up with Nancy White to man the registration table. Meanwhile Hoyt Westdyke judged and tallied scores, and Arlton White filled in wherever needed.

Gerald McAdams and family dressed up and brought their scooter and quadricycle, but took dozens of photos as well. Thanks to Gerald (a.k.a. Uncle Sam) and





also to Tom Purcell of Spring Valley United Methodist Church for capturing family moments, great memories and miles of smiles.

Cotton candy, snow cones, popcorn, the dunk tank, announcements, games and activities require a lot of hands. We thank Betsy and Todd Teitell, Ginny Miller, Linda West, Mary Beth Fikse, Bruce Switzer, Marci Prendergast, John Winslow, Ken Rueckert, David Abell and Michael Webb for helping out. And thanks too to the NHHA board members, who make throwing a patriotic party for 400 residents look easy!

# A Salute to Our Sponsors

NHHA budgets for the parade each year as a valuable community event, but sponsors help defray those costs so the games, activities, prizes, trophies, treats and concessions are FREE to everyone.

Spring Valley United Methodist Church sponsored and manned the bounce house again this year, and brought dozens of volunteers and participants.

NHHA Member Judy Switzer once again underwrote and hosted the Watermelon Sale, so all proceeds go to the ongoing beautification of Northwood Hills, and her company underwrote the parade postcard.

Thanks as well to a very special Friend of our Parade, Jo North.

See you next year.

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fairly constant over the last 10 years. While there has not been a change in the amount of planes on the field, there have been changes within the industry with respect to the aircraft.

The newer generations of airplanes are much quieter and operate more efficiently. So, many flight departments have traded in older planes and purchased newer models in order to save on fuel costs... and the community can enjoy the quieter planes!

We understand Addison Airport is located in a noise-sensitive continued page 12



Addison Oktoberfest Sept. 20-23 at Addison Circle Park. This authentic German festival is one of the largest outside of the famed Munich celebration. www.addisontexas.net/events/Oktoberfest/

Plano Balloon Festival Sept. 21-23 at Oak Point Park in Plano. Hot-air balloons take to the sky in this 33rd annual event. Friday and Saturday nights feature a "balloon glow"...spectacular. www.planoballoonfest.org



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-Steve and Jenni Kasper

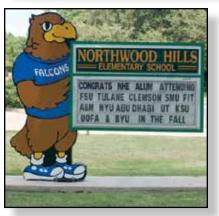
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### Back-to-School News

Northwood Hills Elementary congratulated students who once attended the school and are now headed off to colleges and universities far and wide. Meanwhile, the school welcomes new principal Roxxy Griffin, who joined in the festivities of the NHHA Independence Day Parade & Celebration.

Both Northwood Hills Elementary and Spring Valley Elementary serve Northwood Hills and are part of the Richardson Independent School District, which as a district has received Recognized status for the sixth consecutive year, based on 2011 TAKS scores. RISD's 2011 TAKS results surpassed the average state passing and commended scores in all subjects and grades.

RISD is the largest, most diverse district in the state to achieve a 'Recognized' rating for six consecutive years. The district's 53 campus ratings include 20 Exemplary, 28 Recognized and 5 Academically Acceptable.

The success of area schools directly affects property values and the quality of life in our neighborhood, and both elementary schools can use volunteers. If you're interested in helping our schools, contact Spring Valley Elementary at 469-593-4600 or Northwood Hills Elementary at 469-593-4300.

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area surrounded by residential communities. We work to improve the compatibility between aircraft operations and noise-sensitive land uses, while allowing the airport to continue serving its role in the nation's aviation system.

Q: How did Addison Airport come to be located where it is?

A: In 1957 developers build Addison Airport on 400 acres of cotton fields. At that time, two runways served the air traffic needs. The crosswind runway was later closed to allow for development at the north end of the airport and reduce the impact of the traffic patterns on the surrounding residential neighborhoods.

In the 1960s, Addison Airport received a fully funded FAA control tower and during the first 20 years of the airport's existence, it grew to become one of the largest and busiest general aviation airports in the country. The presence of the airport, along with the railroad and the highway networks in North Dallas, attracted a variety of industries in the Metroplex. The Carrollton Chronicle reported in 1963 that "for the most part, growth of this area has been made possible because of the development of the Addison Airport."

Do you have additional questions or concerns? Contact Darci Neuzil at darci.neuzil@urs.com.

idenote

56th Annual Greek Food Festival Sept. 28-30 at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, Hillcrest at Alpha. This 56-year tradition offers the best in Greek food along with entertainment, dancing and shopping. www.greekfestivalofdallas.com

Cottonwood Art Festival Oct, 6-7 at Cottonwood Park, on Belt Line just east of Coit. More than 200 local, regional and national artists. Free. www.cottonwoodartfestival.com



NHHA Security Statistician

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# NHE Food Truck Night

Northwood Hills Elementary
Fall Family Night will feature
an evening of good food, music
and family fun with a Food Truck
Night. If you haven't jumped on
the food truck craze, this is a great
opportunity to sample a variety
of gourmet fare. Watch for a date
and more information on the
school's marquee.



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# Why Wait? Your 2013 Membership Can Start Today

Don't wait 'til 2013...join NHHA right now and your membership starts immediately. Then you'll have access to the security patrol's out of town home check service during the fall and holidays.

Fill out the membership form below and mail your check, or use the online membership form and FREE online dues payment option.

- Go to northwoodhills.org and click the "Pay Dues" link to access a secure payment.
- Your address is your account number.
- Use MasterCard® or VISA® or make an Electronic Funds Transfer from your bank account.
- You'll receive an email confirming your payment.
- NHHA pays the transaction fee.

Questions about membership? Contact membership cochairs Rich Prendergast at rp@northwoodhills.org or Candace Winslow at cw@northwoodhills.org.

# Welcome New NHHA Member Households:

Briar Cove: Olsson,

Tarentello,

Whitley

Briarmead: Scott Cliffbrook: Cooke

Elmridge: Chadwick

Maplecrest: Barnham

Meadowhaven: Butler

Mossvine Cr.: Prendergast

Spring Valley: Delgado

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HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

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Spouse's name:				
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Home address:				
Home phone:				
Comments or questions?				
We hope you will want to learn more about our activities. Please check any/all areas of interest.				
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	Beautification			Golf Tournament
	<b>Special Events</b>	& Programming		Newsletter
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	Independence Day Parade			
Membership questions? Email Rich Prendergast at rp@northwoodhills.org or Candace Winslow at cw@northwoodhills.org.				



Northwood Hills Homeowners Association P O Box 800874 Dallas, TX 75380-0874

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#### **Bulk Trash Collection Calendar**

Pick-up Date -Place debris on Monday/Tuesday curb no earlier beginning on... than Thursday...

September 10 September 6 October 8 October 4 November 12 November 8 December 10 December 6

For details on what the city will (and won't) pick up as bulk trash, visit www.dallascityhall.com/sanitation/brush\_and\_bulky.html

### Landscape Watering Days

**ODD** number addresses Saturday and Wednesday before 10am/after 6pm

**EVEN** number addresses Sunday and Thursday before 10am/after 6pm

Restrictions apply to automatic irrigation systems and hose-end sprinklers. Drip irrigation, soaker hoses and hand watering may be used any day, any time. For details, visit http://savedallaswater.com/



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