



HILLCREST MANOR HERALD

www.hillcrestmanor.org

Message from the President—Walt Marston



June 2010

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Neighbors,

I hope all of you have noticed the results of efforts by several involved volunteers that are working on your behalf to make Hillcrest Manor a friendly, attractive and safe place to live and raise our families. The new stone signs really add a new sense of style to the entrances from Campbell. The new trees and improved landscaping add beauty and a fresh look to the area. And the new Directories help us reach out and connect with our neighbors. All of these projects (and more) are only possible because of the considerable time and effort voluntarily contributed by your neighbors and by your HOA household dues. Please join me in thanking these volunteers - especially your Block Captains - and make sure you have paid your 2010 dues so we can continue to keep Hillcrest Manor a great place to live.

Thanks,
Walt Marston



Please pay your neighborhood dues by mailing a check to George Kelly and be sure to make the check out to Hillcrest Manor H.O.A. Please do not make your check payable to George Kelly. Georges address is: **16901 Old Pond Drive**

Neighborhood Directories

The 2010 Hillcrest Manor Directories are out and have been distributed by the Block Captains to current HOA Members. Unfortunately due to a technical error a few listings were inadvertently omitted from the book. We apologize to these families for this error! Fortunately we have created an addendum that has the missing information. To make sure your directory is complete please see the names in the box to the right that were missed. Your Block Captains should have sent you a copy in email as well

Listings by Name

ADAMS	Paul 7419 GRACEFIELD	(972) 248-2931
BUOB	Charles 7423 GRACEFIELD	(972) 931-5895
DAVIDOFF	Mark & Tina 7420 GRACEFIELD	(972) 250-0711
MUIR	John & Ann 7416 GRACEFIELD jmuir183@earthlink.net	(972) 931-1991
YOUNKER	Christa 7423 GRACEFIELD christayounger@sbcglobal.net	(972) 931-5895

NEW LANDSCAPE DRESSES UP HILLCREST MANOR —MURLYN ZESKE



Get involved with the homeowners association— let's all help to make a difference in our community by creating a community

L to R, Larry Zeske, Duane Arment, Alex Kish and Norman Borkan



Hillcrest Manor is getting dressed up this spring! To complement our new sidewalk on the south side of Campbell and four attractive new Hillcrest Manor signs, twenty-seven new crepe myrtles were planted along Campbell Road near Meandering Way. The landscapes on the south at Gracefield and Campbell also received a much needed update. Boulders nestled among shade loving caladiums and hostas will complement the pink impatiens for seasonal color. The existing youpon trees were trimmed to provide better definition of the trees and allow for healthier growth. While it will take a month to see the full impact of the plants, we are enthused about this fresh look.

This has truly been a team effort. Ted Kollaja coordinated the tree planting and a team of four volunteers (so far) are engaged in watering the trees every couple of weeks to ensure they get well established. More volunteers are needed, especially one or two people with a trailer hitch on their vehicle to pull the water trailer. **Please contact Norm Borkan at 972-931-8706 if you can spend a couple of hours once every six weeks to help drive the water trailer.** Don't think you are too old to help out; two of our team members are 82 years old but don't look it.

Our landscape redesign started with a team of eight (Duane Arment, Ted Kollaja, Walt Marston, Paul Hyndman, Amanda Hamilton, Jackie Caswell and Larry and Murlyn Zeske) who energetically cleaned out debris, moved edging and pruned dead limbs for two hours on a rainy Saturday, April 17th. This hard working crew made a big difference and got to know each other to boot. Fortunately, the rain stopped during our cleanup and the bulk trash truck picked up debris that afternoon. Jackie Caswell of Jackie Grows It has provided design and plant selection assistance and Murlyn Zeske has coordinated the landscape redesign project. Ernest Pulido and his crew did the heavy lifting of boulders, soil improvement and planting.

Future enhancements to our landscape are planned but we need more people to contribute to this effort with a small amount of their time and by becoming Hillcrest Manor Homeowner members.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR WATERING PATROL

*
* We need additional people to serve every several weeks for a couple of hours watering our new
* trees during the warm summer months. We especially need two people with a trailer hitch on one
* of their vehicles to become a team member. Currently we only have one volunteer with a hitch
* and we want about three teams of two to three persons so the responsibility can be shared. Con-
* tact Norm Borkan at 972-931-8706 if you would be willing to volunteer for a couple of hours
* once every six weeks.
*

INFORMATION FROM YOUR NEIGHBORS

Please keep our children and pets safe

grade school children & dog walkers. Our neighbors would like these to be a neighborhood where our kids can safely ride their bike to their friends house. One neighbor stated " yesterday I saw a woman in a white mini-van talking on her cell, looking down, & doing about 40mph down Hunters Point!"

As a reminder, the speed limit is 20 mph on residential streets. When in a neighborhood that we play, walk, ride bikes, work in our yards, everyone needs to put down their cell phones, go slow & watch where they are going before something awful happens. Please remind all members of your family to use caution on our streets.

Preston Ridge Trail Update

Parks Dept has sent in a second submission to ONCOR and hopes to get approval of the landscape plan this time. Parks dept is trying to take advantage of the elevation of the wires and their distance from the towers to identify a wider envelope of space where taller species could be safely planted. This is setting the rules for ALL trails, not just PRT. They say ONCOR may take 6 weeks to review it and respond, and then there will surely be some official documentation to follow. Not much else to tell you – still hoping to get going again in November. When the time comes that we can plant, due to budget constraints, the City will provide weekday mechanical equipment and operators, but not manual labor. There are three groups that have committed to plant and water and the priority order is:

1. Replace the dead stuff (since removed) from Arapaho to Belt Line, as a weekend watering effort (Hall/Breedlove)

2. Behind Campbell Green/Brentfield Sch, as a weekend watering effort (Robbins)

3. McCallum to Frankford as a weekday watering effort (Smith)

Obviously, any group can change their minds and drop out. I am just preserving the order in which requests have been made, so other interested parties know there is a small queue.

The constraint is one watering trailer. Realistically only two groups can share a weekend (usually a Saturday). If using a weekday then it is freely available.

Thanks—Rod Scales

Hillcrest Manor Mom's Group - by Anne Howard

Join our growing Hillcrest Manor Moms' Group and meet other parents in the neighborhood! Our planned activities include playgroups for toddlers & preschoolers and monthly Mom's Night Outs. We are a new group, so bring your ideas! We would like to accommodate as many schedules as possible, including stay-at-home moms, part-timers, and full-time working moms. Please join us for friendship, support, advice, and fun. Plus it's FREE!

If you are interested in participating or hearing more about the group, please contact Anne Howard at 972-380-2255 OR anne.m.howard@gmail.com.

REAL ESTATE UPDATE

The 1st Five months of 2010 in Brentfield Elementary area By Judy Achten

The first five months of 2010 recorded 41 sales for single family properties in the Brentfield Elementary area. This is up by 10 properties from the same period in 2009. Currently there is 5 months of inventory with the same criteria and 14 Pending sales.

(A healthy market is 6 months or less of inventory).

Within these SOLDS there were 3 Foreclosures this year and three Foreclosures last year plus one Short Sale.

Because the Brentfield area covers a broad range in size and finish out of homes it's not surprising to see the price per square foot ranging in 2010 Solds from \$73.59 - \$154.99. Twenty-six of the forty one sales have Pools.

MAJONG—WE HAVE THREE PEOPLE INTERESTED IN (including myself) PLAYING MAJONG—WE NEED ONE MORE AND AN ALTERNATE. IF INTERESTED, PLEASE CONTACT Sandi Knight -ssk0612@sbcglobal.net

Social Committee

If you would like to participate in planning a neighborhood block party—please contact Sandi Knight at ssk0612@sbcglobal.net or Emily Hennessy at e-hennessy@tx.rr.com

Yard of the Month

-by Laurie Applebaum

Yard of the Month is being sponsored by Callaway's Nursery this season with a \$25 gift card to all monthly winners. Joanne Blum and Laurie Applebaum are always on the lookout for yards deserving of this award. From April 1 - Oct. 1 one yard on each side of Campbell will be awarded this prestigious award and your yard will be embellished with award winning signage. REMEMBER, you MUST be paid in full with your HOA dues in order to receive this award. The yards in our HOA are looking good, and we are always excited to see the beautiful drive-up appeal that a well maintained yard presents! Happy planting!



SOUTH SIDE WINNER - Steve and Amber Klein—7203 Gracefield



NORTH SIDE WINNER—
Rosi and Thomas Graham—7150 Cannongate



JUNE



NORTH SIDE—Richard Thomas—7115 Blythdale



SOUTH SIDE—David and Cheryl Billingsly—7210 Holyoke

CRIME ALERT

We have recently had two disturbing incidents of crime in our neighborhood that should remind everyone to be vigilant about keeping your doors locked, garage doors closed, and report any suspicious activity immediately to the police. Ginger Covey who lives near the corner of Campbell and Hillcrest reported a break-in to her home on May 23. The individual(s) broke and entered the home through a garage door window during the night while the family was sleeping. Property was damaged and stolen, but fortunately there was no confrontation and no one in Ginger's family was hurt. Also, on June 10 Charlotte Fitzpatrick who lives on Mossy Oak reported suspicious behavior by an unknown teenage boy and vandalism of her car that night. The Dallas Police routinely encourage all neighbors to immediately report any suspicious behavior by calling 911. To discourage vehicle break-ins, keep your cars locked and valuables out of sight!

Board Members

President

Walt Marston (Manor Oaks)

Vice President/Block Captains

Patty Hyndman (Blythdale)

Secretary/Newsletter

Sandi Knight (Old Pond)

Treasurer

George Kelly (Old Pond)

Committees:

Ted Kollaja - Wall Committee including new signage.

Emily Hennessy - Social Committee

Artie Moscovitz - Volunteers in Patrol (VIP) and Directory

Do you have an article to submit
for the newsletter?
Email Sandi Knight
Ssk0612@sbcglobal.net