

NPOA Board Members  
2007

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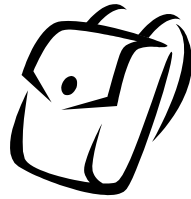
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**Boys with Back Packs**

On Friday evening about 6:30 PM, the 6100 block of Vickijohn had some African-American males with backpacks knocking on doors. They quickly dispersed upon being questioned. The Police were notified but didn't offer much assistance. Please keep your eyes open and report any suspicious behavior to 911.

**Is your "Home Sweet Home" a "Safe House?"**

We're supposed to feel safe and secure in our home. But with the recent rash of break-ins, many of us questioned how safe our homes really are. Sure, we have alarms and burglar bars, and even loud dogs, but they didn't seem to be enough of a deterrent. What else can we do? I don't have the answers, but I know some people who do.

Our Fondren Police storefront has a community service division, headed by Officer Sean Demaree that will come to your home and do a FREE security evaluation of your home and property. They are a phone call away, at 713-981-7051. You'll need to set up an appointment, and understand that this service is not the top priority, but they WILL come out and let you know where your strengths and weaknesses are in your home's security. Taking advantage of this service will not only give YOU peace of mind, but also serve as notice to would-be vandals that we are NOT easy targets!

So please, call Officer Demaree and arrange for a home evaluation soon. And spend more time worrying about other things, like how bad the mosquitoes are going to be after all this rain.

**City of Houston SAFECLEAR Program**

The City of Houston, responds to concerns over freeway accidents by creating a new program called SAFECLEAR. Keep this in mind if you ever get stalled or run out of gas on the freeway.

1. Any motorist who stalls or experiences a flat tire who is not in a moving lane of traffic has the option of receiving a free tow to a destination of their choice within one mile of the nearest exit. If the motorist believes he or she has run out of gas, the destination can be the nearest gas station, even if it is beyond a mile after the nearest exit. If the motorist has a flat tire and a good spare, the tire will be changed for free, as well, if the motorist wants.
2. If a tow results from a police investigation, i.e. accident or arrest, or if the vehicle has been abandoned, the tow fee will be the city rate, currently \$134.50.

The SAFECLEAR Program has cut freeway accidents by 10% over the last two previous years saving hundreds of thousands of dollars in associated health care costs.

Northbrook Property Owners Association

**HIGHLIGHTS AND HORIZONS**

*THE VISION FOR TOMORROW*

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**Congratulations!**

July Yard of the Month  
Ms. Nancy Holt, 6111 Hummingbird Drive



**Thank you**

A special thank you goes out to Larry Odensky for his generosity for making our neighborhood look special for the 4th of July. Every year Larry puts out American Flags on the front of our yards to help celebrate our holiday of freedom. Next time you see him...say thanks.

**Pool Keys**

Correction to notice in last month's Newsletter

The person now in charge of the 2007 pool keys is our Treasurer-Ellen Ignatow. Her phone number is 713-988-9852. In you have not done so, please call Ellen to arrange a time to pick up your key. Your assessments must be up-to-date in order to get a key. If you have an old key, bring it to exchange. If you do not have a key, there is a \$5.00 deposit fee.

**Looking for Editorials**

Highlights and Horizons is always looking for opinions and editorials from the homeowners. If you have some information or would like to make a contribution to our newsletter, please contact me at:

jeremescott@sbcglobal.net.

Suggestions are always welcome for improvements to our neighborhood. Together we can make Northbrook a better place for our families to live.

**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT**

Northbrook is in the process of collecting old unused pool keys. The keys say "Best Duplication Prohibited" on one side and have the letter R followed by a 4 digit number on the other side. For each old key returned by a homeowner, the \$5.00 deposit fee will be refunded. Our keys are recycled, so we can prevent having to have additional keys made by collecting old unused ones. Thanks for your help.

### Homeowners: Be environmentally friendly

It's that time of year again! As homeowners are spring cleaning and doing home improvements, many of us are stuck with items (such as paints and batteries) that we know we shouldn't put in the trash but don't know where to dispose of them. Besides some of the obvious chemicals, there are also many items that we tend to throw in the trash that are not good for our environment. The city of Houston is working to make the management of household hazardous waste easier by providing an ongoing collection. Now, we need to do our part by taking the time to dispose of these items properly. Please read and keep the information below on how you can help our city and our environment. Thanks Britt Hutchison (District 4 Rep)

The Environmental Service Center is located at 11500 South Post Oak. The Center is open: Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9:00am to 3:00pm & the Second Saturday of each month from 9:00am to 1:00pm

Information at: [www.houstonsolidwaste.org](http://www.houstonsolidwaste.org)

This is a FREE service, but you will need a recent water bill to show proof of residency. The ESC provides a drive through, drop-off location and the staff will unload everything for you. You never have to get out of your vehicle.

The ESC WILL ACCEPT the Following Materials:

Acids, Aerosol Cans, All Batteries, Antifreeze, Brake Fluid, Car Waxes, Craft & Hobby Chemicals, Degreasers, Drain Cleaners, Fertilizer, Fluorescent Lights, Fuels, Herbicides, Household Chemicals, Kerosene, Metal Polish, Motor Oil, Oil Filters, Paints, Stains, Paint Thinners, Pest Strips, Pesticides, Pharmaceuticals, Photo Chemicals, Pool Chemicals, Power Steering Fluid, Solvents, Spray paint, Tires (limit 10) Transmission Fluid, Turpentine, Varnishes. Residential electronic scrap items (monitors, CPUs, televisions, VCRs, etc) will also be accepted.

#### A Note on Deed Restrictions

A number of years ago, the Texas legislature enacted the Texas Residential Property Owners Protection Act which spelled out the rights of, and restrictions on, homeowners associations and residents. In addition to other things, the Act provides us, NPOA, a legal framework for notification of residents and resolution of complaints. We have tried to be diligent in following both the Northbrook Deed Restrictions and Texas Law, and we hope that you will also.

Copies of the Deed Restrictions and the Act are, or will be soon, available on the new NPOA web site, so you can get a lot of your questions answered by reading those documents.

If you receive one of our certified letters, please read it through. If you have a question about what is being cited (e.g., a fence), first talk to the person who sent the letter. If your issue is not resolved then, or if you have a different problem (e.g., need more time for repair), follow the procedure for requesting a hearing before the Board. To request a hearing, you must send your request in writing to NPOA. Email requests will not be accepted (this may change if we install certain security features on the web site.) Please don't get the idea that failing to accept the certified letter lets you off the hook or that you don't really have to correct the problem and don't request a hearing. A letter to you from our attorney will cost you \$140.00; hearings are generally painless.

**Next Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday July 17, 7PM At the Club House**

### It's America's Night Out Against Crime!

The "24<sup>th</sup> Annual National Night Out" (NNO), a unique crime/drug prevention event sponsored by the [National Association of Town Watch](#) (NATW), has been scheduled for **Tuesday, August 7, 2007**. We cordially invite you and your community to [be a part of our NIGHT OUT 2007 team](#).

Last year's National Night Out campaign involved citizens, law enforcement agencies, civic groups, businesses, neighborhood organizations and local officials from over 10,000 communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities and military bases worldwide. In all, over **34 million** people participated in NNO 2006.

#### NATIONAL NIGHT OUT is designed to:

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness;
- Generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs;
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and
- Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.



NNO has proven to be an effective, inexpensive and enjoyable program to promote neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships in our fight for a safer nation. Plus, the benefits your community will derive from NNO will most certainly extend well beyond the one night

Meet Officer Moon  
Tuesday August 7th  
6PM to 8PM  
The Club House  
We'll have food, refreshments and fun.  
We are asking homeowners to bring desserts



Stickers have been ordered for homeowners to affix to their car(s). When they come in, you will be notified when and where to pick up the number of stickers you will need for your household.

The Board felt that this will help our neighborhood be a safer place to live by recognizing who does not belong in our neighborhood, especially at night when the citizens patrol is on duty.

If you have other suggestions, let us know.

#### \$\$\$\$Clubhouse Rental\$\$\$\$

Due to the fact that costs keep going up and the necessity to keep our clubhouse neat and well maintained, the following will be in effect:

Clubhouse Rental  
\$100.00 plus a refundable \$100.00 deposit  
Questions: Call Chuck at: 713-541-5081