

KHA News

Fall 2014

Kimberlea Homeowners' Association

www.kimberleahome.com

President	Carrie Beard	214-202-2547
Vice-President	Melissa Hailey	214-418-0180
Treasurer	Libby Perry	972-612-3595
Secretary	Julie Sinclair-Campbell	972-596-0029
Crimewatch Coordinator	Larry Kryske	469-693-9242
Newsletter & Distribution	Carrie Beard	214-202-2547
Bunko Coordinator	Julie Sinclair-Campbell	972-596-0029
Supper Club Coordinator	Libby Perry	972-612-3595
Men's Poker Night Coordinator	Grant Beard	214-995-8420

For those of you reading a paper copy of this newsletter, KHA newsletters on our Kimberlea website are in color; pictures will be more vibrant and the font size will appear larger for an easier reading experience. Visit www.kimberleahome.com and select "News" to view this and previous newsletters online.

UPCOMING KHA DATES TO REMEMBER

-- More Details, page 3 --

OKTOBERFEST

Saturday - October 18th, 2:00-6:00pm, Stagecoach Trail

KHA SUPPER CLUB, WOMEN'S BUNKO and MEN'S POKER

Summer break is over and our KHA Clubs are starting up again in September. If you are interested in joining Supper Club, Women's Bunko or Men's Poker, please contact the Coordinator for each group listed at the top of this page. For more details visit www.kimberleahome.com/Activities.

GOING GREEN IN 2014

Go green and help make a difference in our KHA expenditures (regarding paper copies of newsletters) by registering to receive your quarterly newsletter and updates online. Visit www.kimberleahome.com and follow the easy steps under "News" today. **Thanks for supporting KHA Going Green in 2014!**

KHA ANNUAL YARD SALE – SPRING SUCCESS

The weather was perfect for the KHA Annual Yard Sale this year. Thanks to everyone who participated and to our neighbors who shopped our sales. **Special thanks to Melissa DeMonic Dorosh** for organizing this event again for KHA; we appreciate you! We plan to continue the tradition next spring and add many more homes to the event. We hope you will join us in 2015; start collecting your junk now to pass on as treasures later!

KIMBERLEA HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION AND 2015 DUES

What does \$35 annually mean to you?

Thank you for your interest in the Kimberlea Homeowners Association (KHA). We hope you find this information helpful and decide to become a member.

As a member you will receive a quarterly newsletter with neighborhood updates, and although we encourage everyone to register for the newsletter online, paper copies are made available. Member dues support KHA hosted annual neighborhood events for you and your family to enjoy, including an Easter Egg Scramble, Spring Yard Sale, Oktoberfest and Santa's Visit. The following KHA activities are not funded by dues, but as a member you can join us for: Supper Club, Lady's Bunko, Men's Poker Night, Holiday Light Contest, and Wine/Beer Tastings. Learn more about these events and activities at www.kimberleahome.com. Dues are also applied to the city's required annual maintenance for all five Kimberlea entrances.

KHA dues are \$35 per home annually. **Traditionally we collect dues at Oktoberfest (more information about this upcoming event on page 3).** We will accept payment anytime during the year. Although dues are voluntary, we hope you agree \$35 annually is a reasonable amount to help your neighborhood association continue to thrive, provide such wonderful activities and to keep our neighborhood beautiful.

There are 331 homes in the Kimberlea neighborhood including the following streets: Bandolino, Buckle, Candelaria, Canoncita, Haversham, Mission Ridge, North Echo, Overland, San Juan Circle, Sandia, Sebring, South Echo, Stagecoach, Starlight, Twin Diamond and Whispering Circle. A "Treasury Report" is provided each quarter in the KHA newsletter. **Please support your association.**

2014 KHA EASTER EGG SCRAMBLE SUCCESS

Easter Scramble rain or shine ... and rain it did! Due to the light drizzle, we had a smaller showing than past years, but the participating children had a lot of fun hunting the eggs, jumping in the bounce house, getting their face painted, dancing to the dj's music and playing with friends.

Special thanks to Rachael Winger, Carolyn McCrossan and Claire Mayorga for helping Kimberlea with this event. They coordinated efforts with Wiffletree and made sure the Easter Bunny found the party with baskets full of stuffed eggs ready to go! Our sister neighborhood, Wiffletree, does the lion's share of organizing this event, so as always, we appreciate them! We hope to see more little scramblers next year!

EGG-TRA SPECIAL PHOTOS FROM THIS YEAR



KHA ANNUAL OKTOBERFEST

Come out and join your neighbors Saturday, October 18th from 2:00 to 6:00 for KHA's Annual Oktoberfest! Stagecoach Trail (off of Canoncita) will be blocked off for this amazing event. Great food, entertainment, company and fun for all KHA member families and their guests. Don't forget your chairs!

FOOD

There will be plenty of brauts, sauerkraut, German potatoes, chips, cookies, beer, water and soft drinks!

ENTERTAINMENT

Live German music from a local quartet; who incidentally, was a fantastic touch to last year's Oktoberfest. Children will enjoy the bounce house from Jump City. And don't miss the face painting table.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

The Plano Fire and Rescue team will attend for questions and tours of the Fire Truck, barring any emergencies that afternoon. The Plano Police Department has also been invited to participate.

KHA OPPORTUNITIES

This is Kimberlea's largest event of the year; it is a great chance to meet and visit with your neighbors. There will be sign-up sheets for all KHA activities, including Supper Club, Women's Bunko, Men's Poker Night, Wine Tastings and more!

2015 DUES and GUESTS

This is your opportunity to meet your KHA Executive Committee and pay your 2015 dues. Annual dues are \$35 per family and allow you to enjoy activities throughout the year, such as Oktoberfest, Easter Egg Scramble, Santa Claus Visit, and more! We accept checks or cash. You may bring guests to Oktoberfest; it is \$7.00 per guest.

VOLUNTEER

We could not pull this awesome event off without our veteran volunteers, yet we are happy to welcome new helpers. If you can help with set up/clean up, cooking a dish, working the registration table or manning the bounce house, please contact Carrie Beard at carriebeard2007@gmail.com. The more volunteers, the less will be expected from each, so everyone can enjoy the day.



Remember ... KHA activities are provided for all residents that pay their annual dues. Be sure to pay your dues now or at Oktoberfest to enjoy the remaining events of the year!

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN GIRL SCOUTS?

Girl Scout Open House for Grades K - 12 and Adults

Tuesday, September 9, 2014
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Christ United Methodist Church

Serving girls from these neighborhoods: Bethany, Carlisle, Davis, Hughston, Mathews, Saigling, & Wells Elementary Schools; Haggard & Schimelpfenig Middle Schools; Clark & Vines High Schools; and Plano Senior High School

<http://gsnetx-su155.org/>

Questions? Contact Sarah @ Sarahgaglianogs@gmail.com

DOG WALKING AND PET SITTER IN KHA

Our Kimberlea neighbor and friend is available for dog walking and pet sitting. If you are interested in these services, please contact Melissa DeMonic Dorosh.



CRIME WATCH

Keeping Our Neighborhood Safe and Secure by Larry Kryske

Safety and security go hand in hand. A safe place to live and play is also one that is secure from crime. Situational awareness, that is, being aware of where we are and being proactive in our actions, is the overarching attribute that allows each of us to live our lives in a potentially dangerous world. We must help our children cultivate situational awareness. In addition, each of us must learn to trust our instincts. If something does not seem right or feel right, then some appropriate response is necessary. Ignoring these telltale signs of fear may lead to greater difficulty. Finally, we must report to the police in a timely way of any suspicious behavior or people in our area. Details (license plates, descriptions of cars and people, times the actions occurred, etc) help the police to deal successfully with situations and keep our neighborhood safe. Below are some safety and security tips involving our children going back to school. Be sure to share these where appropriate with your children.

Back to School Tips from American Academy of Pediatrics

MAKING THE FIRST DAY EASIER

- Remind your child that there are probably a lot of students who are uneasy about the first day of school. This may be at any age. Teachers know that students are nervous and will make an extra effort to make sure everyone feels as comfortable as possible.

- Point out the positive aspects of starting school. She'll see old friends and meet new ones. Refresh her positive memories about previous years, when she may have returned home after the first day with high spirits because she had a good time.
- Find another child in the neighborhood with whom your student can walk to school or ride on the bus.
- If it is a new school for your child, attend any available orientations and take an opportunity to tour the school before the first day.
- If you feel it is needed, drive your child (or walk with her) to school and pick her up on the first day.

BACKPACK SAFETY

- Choose a backpack with wide, padded shoulder straps and a padded back.
- Pack light. Organize the backpack to use all of its compartments. Pack heavier items closest to the center of the back. The backpack should never weigh more than 10 to 20 percent of your child's body weight.
- Always use both shoulder straps. Slinging a backpack over one shoulder can strain muscles.
- If your school allows, consider a rolling backpack. This type of backpack may be a good choice for students who must tote a heavy load. Remember that rolling backpacks still must be carried up stairs, they may be difficult to roll in snow, and they may not fit in some lockers.

TRAVELING TO AND FROM SCHOOL

Review the basic rules with your student:

SCHOOL BUS

- Children should always board and exit the bus at locations that provide safe access to the bus or to the school building.
- Remind your child to wait for the bus to stop before approaching it from the curb.
- Make sure your child walks where she can see the bus driver (which means the driver will be able to see her, too).
- Remind your student to look both ways to see that no other traffic is coming before crossing the street, just in case traffic does not stop as required.
- Your child should not move around on the bus.
- If your child's school bus has lap/shoulder seat belts, make sure your child uses one at all times when in the bus. (If your child's school bus does not have lap/shoulder belts, encourage the school system to buy or lease buses with lap/shoulder belts.)

CAR

- All passengers should wear a seat belt and/or an age- and size-appropriate car safety seat or booster seat.
- Your child should ride in a car safety seat with a harness as long as possible and then ride in a belt-positioning booster seat. Your child is ready for a booster seat when she has reached the top weight or height allowed for her seat, her shoulders are above the top harness slots, or her ears have reached the top of the seat.
- Your child should ride in a belt-positioning booster seat until the vehicle's seat belt fits properly (usually when the child reaches about 4' 9" in height and is between 8 to 12 years of age). This means that the child is tall enough to sit against the vehicle seat back with her legs bent at the knees and feet hanging down and the shoulder belt lies across the middle of the chest and shoulder, not the neck or throat; the lap belt is low and snug across the thighs, and not the stomach.
- All children younger than 13 years of age should ride in the rear seat of vehicles. If you must drive more children than can fit in the rear seat (when carpooling, for example), move the front-seat passenger's seat as far back as possible and have the child ride in a booster seat if the seat belts do not fit properly without it.
- Remember that many crashes occur while novice teen drivers are going to and from school. You should require seat belt use, limit the number of teen passengers, and do not allow eating, drinking, cell phone conversations, texting or other mobile device use to prevent driver distraction. Limit nighttime driving and driving in inclement weather.

Familiarize yourself with your state's graduated driver's license law and consider the use of a parent-teen driver agreement to facilitate the early driving learning process.

For a sample parent-teen driver agreement, see www.healthychildren.org/teendrivers

BIKE

- Always wear a bicycle helmet, no matter how short or long the ride.
- Ride on the right, in the same direction as auto traffic.
- Use appropriate hand signals.

- Respect traffic lights and stop signs.
- Wear bright-colored clothing to increase visibility. White or light-colored clothing and reflective gear is especially important after dark.
- Know the "rules of the road."

WALKING TO SCHOOL

- Make sure your child's walk to school is a safe route with well-trained adult crossing guards at every intersection.
- Identify other children in the neighborhood with whom your child can walk to school. In neighborhoods with higher levels of traffic, consider organizing a "walking school bus," in which an adult accompanies a group of neighborhood children walking to school.
- Be realistic about your child's pedestrian skills. Because small children are impulsive and less cautious around traffic, carefully consider whether or not your child is ready to walk to school without adult supervision.
- If your children are young or are walking to a new school, walk with them the first week or until you are sure they know the route and can do it safely.
- Bright-colored clothing will make your child more visible to drivers.

EATING DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

- Most schools regularly send schedules of cafeteria menus home and/or have them posted on the school's website. With this advance information, you can plan on packing lunch on the days when the main course is one your child prefers not to eat.
- Look into what is offered in school vending machines. Vending machines should stock healthy choices such as fresh fruit, low-fat dairy products, water and 100 percent fruit juice. Learn about your child's school wellness policy and get involved in school groups to put it into effect.
- Each 12-ounce soft drink contains approximately 10 teaspoons of sugar and 150 calories. Drinking just one can of soda a day increases a child's risk of obesity by 60%. Choose healthier options to send in your child's lunch.

BULLYING

Bullying or cyberbullying is when one child picks on another child repeatedly. Bullying can be physical, verbal, or social. It can happen at school, on the playground, on the school bus, in the neighborhood, over the Internet, or through mobile devices like cell phones.

When Your Child Is Bullied

- Help your child learn how to respond by teaching your child how to:
 1. Look the bully in the eye.
 2. Stand tall and stay calm in a difficult situation.
 3. Walk away.
- Teach your child how to say in a firm voice.
 1. "I don't like what you are doing."
 2. "Please do NOT talk to me like that."
 3. "Why would you say that?"
- Teach your child when and how to ask a trusted adult for help.
- Encourage your child to make friends with other children.
- Support activities that interest your child.
- Alert school officials to the problems and work with them on solutions.
- Make sure an adult who knows about the bullying can watch out for your child's safety and well-being when you cannot be there.
- Monitor your child's social media or texting interactions so you can identify problems before they get out of hand.

When Your Child Is the Bully

- Be sure your child knows that bullying is never OK.
- Set firm and consistent limits on your child's aggressive behavior.
- Be a positive role model. Show children they can get what they want without teasing, threatening or hurting someone.

- Use effective, non-physical discipline, such as loss of privileges.
- Develop practical solutions with the school principal, teachers, counselors, and parents of the children your child has bullied.

When Your Child Is a Bystander

- Tell your child not to cheer on or even quietly watch bullying.
- Encourage your child to tell a trusted adult about the bullying.
- Help your child support other children who may be bullied. Encourage your child to include these children in activities.
- Encourage your child to join with others in telling bullies to stop.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CHILD CARE

- During early and middle childhood, youngsters need supervision. A responsible adult should be available to get them ready and off to school in the morning and supervise them after school until you return home from work.
- If a family member will care for your child, communicate the need to follow consistent rules set by the parent regarding discipline and homework.
- Children approaching adolescence (11- and 12-year-olds) should not come home to an empty house in the afternoon unless they show unusual maturity for their age.
- If alternate adult supervision is not available, parents should make special efforts to supervise their children from a distance. Children should have a set time when they are expected to arrive at home and should check in with a neighbor or with a parent by telephone.
- If you choose a commercial after-school program, inquire about the training of the staff. There should be a high staff-to-child ratio, and the rooms and the playground should be safe.

DEVELOPING GOOD HOMEWORK AND STUDY HABITS

- Create an environment that is conducive to doing homework. Children need a consistent work space in their bedroom or another part of the home that is quiet, without distractions, and promotes study.
- Schedule ample time for homework.
- Establish a household rule that the TV and other electronic distractions stay off during homework time.
- Supervise computer and Internet use.
- Be available to answer questions and offer assistance, but never do a child's homework for her.
- Take steps to help alleviate eye fatigue, neck fatigue and brain fatigue while studying. It may be helpful to close the books for a few minutes, stretch, and take a break periodically when it will not be too disruptive.
- If your child is struggling with a particular subject, and you aren't able to help her yourself, a tutor can be a good solution. Talk it over with your child's teacher first.
- Some children need help organizing their homework. Checklists, timers, and parental supervision can help overcome homework problems.
- If your child is having difficulty focusing on or completing homework, discuss this with your child's teacher, school counselor, or health care provider.

See more at: <http://www.aap.org/en-us/about-the-aap/aap-press-room/news-featuresand-safety-tips/Pages/Back-to-School-Tips.aspx#sthash.70lvsfRI.dpuf>

Please feel free to e-mail me if you have any questions or suggestions. I look forward to meeting each of you as we together work to make Kimberlea an even better place to live and raise our families.

Commander Larry Kryske, U.S. Navy (Ret.), Kimberlea Crime Watch Coordinator, homeporter@gmail.com, 469-693-9242

KHA TREASURER'S REPORT

August 14, 2014

Previous balance as March 3, 2014 \$5,764.62

Credits:

Membership Dues \$ 595.00

TOTAL CREDITS \$ 595.00

Debits

Entryway maintenance 4 months \$ 720.00

Newsletter Printing & Postage \$ 128.37

Yard Sale Supplies \$ 71.99

Easter Egg Scramble \$ 197.22

TOTAL DEBITS (\$1,117.58)

Balance as of August 14, 2014 \$5,242.04

103 families have paid their 2014 dues.

KHA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

RENEWAL _____ NEW _____

NAMES _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

Note: Providing your email does not register you for online newsletters and updates via email. See page 1 "GOING GREEN IN 2014" of this newsletter for registering details.

KHA membership dues are \$ 35 annually.

Please send your check payable to:

KHA c/o Libby Perry, Treasurer

3325 Canoncita Lane

Plano, TX 75023