

# KHA News

Summer 2017

## Kimberlea Homeowners Association

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

President	Chris Heaton	214-473-6793
Vice-President	OPEN	
Treasurer	Libby Perry	972-612-3595
Secretary	Julie Sinclair-Campbell	972-596-0029
Crimewatch Coordinator	Larry Kryske	469-693-9242
Newsletter & Distribution	Chris Heaton	214-473-6793
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
Oktoberfest Coordinator	Carrie Beard	214-202-2547

## UPCOMING KHA DATES TO REMEMBER

**KHA OKTOBERFEST**

**Saturday, October 21, 2017**

**Stagecoach Trail**

**Look for Additional Details in the KHA Fall Newsletter**

## BUCKHORN PARK UPDATE

You may have noticed significant progress being made on the Buckhorn Park renovations recently. The City of Plano's contractor is scheduled to complete the renovations by June 27, 2017. Here are a few updates from the City of Plano...

As of Friday, May 19:

*Well, I've got a lot of good news and a bit of "eck" news. J*

*The trees are installed, as with the sod. Go take a look. You can start seeing what the final product is going to look like now and it's going to be beautiful.*

*The grading was pushed off due to the rain we got mid-week and then again due to the projected storms that we were supposed to get last night. So, to play is safe, the fine grading and hydromulch were pushed back to Monday of next week. This does not negatively affect us at this point because the hydromulch is going to come in right behind the fine grading.*

*So, for the eck news, we will need to do the larger hill slide as part of a separate contract after the park is open. I'm going to begin the process of hiring a designer to design a hill similar to what was shown in the photo and then we'll have to bid out*

*the building of the hill slide. It will only affect a small portion of the park once it's time to build. The rest will remain open to everyone. I don't have a timeline for that yet.*

*The good news is that we do have a hill slide and our new landscape company is going to add some sod to that front section. Once that grass "takes" then I can open that back up to everyone.*

*I hope you all have a great weekend.*

*Thanks,  
Angie*

*As of Monday, May 15:*

*Hello,*

*I wanted to give you a quick update as things are happening very quickly now. Most of the sod is put down. As part of our standard details, Parks requires 5' of sod around newly paved areas to reduce erosion.*

*Our trees arrived this morning and look great, see attached photo. Our landscapers will first finish the sod work and then begin planting.*

*They are hand watering everything right now, so as not to create a muddy mess with the irrigation system prior to grading.*

*Speaking of grading, that is happening on Wednesday. This is the fine grading that takes place prior to the hydromulch (grass seed) going down.*

*If you have a chance, take a peak. It looks great.*

*Thank you,  
Angie*

*PS – please pass along that this is a construction site and people are not allowed inside the fence until the project's completion. I saw a couple walking their dog inside the fence this morning.*



## KHA ANNUAL YARD SALE

Special thanks to Melissa DeMonic Dorosh and the participating Kimberlea families during the KHA Annual Yard Sale held on Saturday, May 20, 2017! Given the success of the KHA Yard Sale, Melissa is considering organizing another Yard Sale this fall. If you are interested in being a part of a potential Yard Sale in September or early October, please e-mail Melissa DeMonic Dorosh at [sunshine\\_honeybee2004@yahoo.com](mailto:sunshine_honeybee2004@yahoo.com).



## **KHA DIRECTORY AVAILABLE ONLINE**

The KHA Directory is a benefit for KHA members and can be accessed with a username and password at [www.kimberleahome.com](http://www.kimberleahome.com). Members who are current with their dues are marked with an (\*\*) by their name. Names without (\*\*) lists the last known contact information.

Please contact Libby Perry ([lperry3325@verizon.net](mailto:lperry3325@verizon.net)) or Chris Heaton ([chris@chrisheaton.com](mailto:chris@chrisheaton.com)) if you need the username/password, if you would like to update your contact information or if you would like to request a paper copy of the KHA Directory.

## **KHA SUPPER CLUB**

Supper Club is one of the oldest traditions in Kimberlea. Once a month for eight months each year several neighbors get together to share an evening of friendship, food, and fun with other Kimberlea residents. The groups meet the third Saturday of each month except the summer and Oktoberfest Saturday in October. Menus are provided and each participant makes their assigned dish for the number of guests attending their group. Participants keep track of what it costs them to make their dish. At the end of the evening, the host family adds up the cost of each dish then divides that total by the number of participants and that is the amount you pay for your dinner. Each menu is a three or four course meal plus wine. The meal typically costs \$12 - \$40 depending on the menu. Each family hosts at their home once per season. If interested in joining please contact Libby Perry at [lperry3325@verizon.net](mailto:lperry3325@verizon.net) or (972) 612-3595.

## **KHA VICE-PRESIDENT NEEDED!**

The Kimberlea Executive Committee is currently looking for a Vice-President to join our team of volunteers. Primary responsibilities would be assisting the President with newsletter distribution and event coordination. Interested parties should contact Chris Heaton at [chris@chrisheaton.com](mailto:chris@chrisheaton.com). Thank you for supporting KHA!

## **SAFETY AND SECURITY: SUMMER, 2017 KIMBERLEA CRIME WATCH**

Summer is almost upon us. Time sure flies when you're having fun in Plano, Texas! Previously, we have talked about the need to protect ourselves from burglars and the need to report strangers in our neighborhoods in a timely manner. We also need to be aware of safety concerns involving being out in the sun, at the pool, dealing with insects, and the like. With regard to these issues, Erin Mantz captured many of the important safety tips.

Longer days, lighter nights and more worrying. Yup, it's summer. And before your kids race out the door, you're doing all you can to protect them from sun, bugs, head injuries, etc.

There's something about this season that makes kids run faster and play harder. And like everything else parents carefully do to protect their kids -- cooking healthy kid food, hiring the right babysitters, buckling them into car seats (or shouting out seat belt reminders) -- summer takes preparation, too.

Here's how you and your summer babysitter or nanny can help keep kids safe this season -- without feeling like Summer Cop, monitoring the fun right out of their vacation.

### **Be Sun Savvy**

Here's a summer-bummer: a person's sunlight exposure during childhood and adolescence is generally considered to increase the risk of melanoma. We've heard it all before, but make sure your family and caregivers all have the same sun-strategy. Vilma Cokkinides, PhD, strategic director, Risk Factor Surveillance for the American Cancer Society, helped come up with these tips for sun safety:

- **Apply early and repeat.** For kids six months and older (as well as adults), sunscreens with a Sun Protection Factor (SPF) of 15 or greater reduce the intensity of UVRs that cause sunburns. Apply liberally 15 to 30 minutes before sun exposure, so it can absorb into the skin and decrease the likelihood that it will be washed off. Reapply every two hours and after kids swim, sweat or dry off with a towel. For most users, proper application and reapplication are more important factors than using a product with a higher SPF.
- **Cover.** Dress kids in protective clothing and hats. Clothing can be an excellent barrier of ultraviolet rays. Many light-weight sun-protective styles cover the neck, elbows and knees.
- **Keep infants out of the sun.** Keep babies younger than six months out of direct sunlight, dressed in cool, comfortable clothing and wearing hats with brims. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) says sunscreen may be used on infants younger than six months on small areas of skin if adequate clothing and shade are not available.
- **Plan early morning play.** For kids beyond that baby stage, Cokkinides advises parents to plan outdoor activities to avoid peak-sun hours (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.) as much as possible. Sound impossible for your active kids? Make sure you all can get a break from the sun, when needed.
- **Beware of shade.** Many people think sitting in the shade is a simple sun compromise. Shade does provide relief from the heat, but it offers parents a false sense of security about UVR protection. You can still sunburn in shade, because light is scattered and reflected. A fair-skinned person sitting under a tree can burn in less than an hour.
- **Check the weather.** Look for the ultra-violet (UV) index when planning outdoor activities; it predicts the intensity of UV light based on the sun's position, cloud movements, altitude, ozone data and other factors. Higher UV index numbers predict more intense UV light.

### **Splash Safely (and Other Water Rules)**

Drowning happens quickly and quietly -- not with a lot of splashing, reminds Emily Samuel, water safety program manager for Safe Kids Worldwide, a nonprofit organization solely dedicated to eliminating preventable childhood injuries. In fact, drowning is the leading cause of unintentional injury deaths in kids one to four-years-old. Here are some helpful tips to prevent accidents around the water.

- **Stay off cell phones.** Don't allow yourself to get distracted when your kids are in the water. And, yes, chatting with other parents is a common distraction as well.
- **Know your skills.** Adults and caregivers should refresh their Infant Child CPR certification each year, especially before summer, if there is a pool involved. Kids should never swim alone, and having adults or caregivers know water safety skills is smart.
- **Put a guard up.** Even kiddie pools in backyards should be drained after use, urges Samuel. For houses that have swimming pools, fencing should be at least four feet high and surround the pool on all sides, with doors that close and lock by themselves. Pool supply companies may offer options for alarms and other safety systems. Remember

to never rely solely on an alarm or a fence. Train your kids to never go near the pool without an adult.

- **Educate yourself.** The Consumer Product Safety Commission has a [pool safety guide](https://www.poolsafely.gov/parents/) (<https://www.poolsafely.gov/parents/>) where families can find out how to keep kids safer at any pool -- whether it's the community park or your child's camp.

## Beware of Bugs

Unfortunately, those blood-sucking critters are a part of summer nights, and, yes, even days. Anjali Rao, MD, a pediatrician at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago gives these suggestions on how to stay safe from insects:

- **Spray and repeat.** Parents or caregivers should spray kids' exposed skin and clothing. Reapply whenever the spray gets washed off or the child starts getting bitten again. For an alternative to sprays, try insect repellent pads that clip on clothes.
- **Check for allergic reactions.** Some kids react to insect bites more than others. If your child gets bitten and seems to have an allergic reaction to the bite, seek medical attention to see if you should give your child an oral antihistamine or other medication.
- **Beware of serious bug-borne illnesses.** Most people who contract Eastern Equine Encephalitis ("Triple E"), a mosquito-transmitted illness, do not show any symptoms. But here's the good news: this illness occurs relatively infrequently and mostly in and around swampy areas where human populations tend to be limited. West Nile is another virus you'll hear about when the heat strikes. Basically, if there are symptoms of either of these illnesses, they are flu-like, so if you hear of instances in your area, and your child has bites and flu-symptoms (and muscle-stiffness for West Nile), go to a doctor. It's better to be safe.
- **Check for ticks.** Ticks thrive in warm, moist, woody areas, so ideally kids should wear long clothing to cover their skin, but let's be realistic: in the heat of summer, that's hard to do. Dr. Richard Lichenstein, director of pediatric emergency medicine research at the University of Maryland Hospital for Children, says that to help prevent ticks from attaching themselves to your kids, check them and shower within two hours of coming indoors. Clothes are a culprit, too; ticks can come in on a t-shirt! If the clothes aren't dirty enough to need washing (dream on), do it anyway. Placing clothes in the dryer on high heat for at least an hour will kill any ticks. Kids six and older can check themselves, with adult guidance, but they must check their entire body, not just forearms and legs: under the arms, in and around the ears, inside the belly button, back of the knees, in and around the hair, between the legs, around the waist, etc. If a child develops any rash or fever after a tick bite, visit the doctor.

## Prevent Dehydration

You may be surprised how much -- and when -- kids should drink liquids. To prevent dehydration, kids should drink 12 ounces of fluid 30 minutes before an activity begins and take mandatory fluid breaks (like many day camps require), with kids under 90 pounds drinking five ounces every 20 minutes during activities and kids over 90 pounds drinking nine ounces every 20 minutes. Tip: A child's gulp equals a half-ounce of fluid, so your child should drink about 10 gulps for every 20 minutes of play.

The Safe Kids Coalition urges parents and caregivers to watch for warning signs of dehydration, such as thirst, dry or sticky mouth, headache, muscle cramping, irritability, extreme fatigue, weakness, dizziness or decreased performance.

## Head Off Injuries

According to Dr. Jamie Freishtat, a pediatrician in the Washington, DC area, helmet safety is extremely important,

particularly during the summer when kids spend lots of time outdoors riding bikes. Kids should always wear a properly fitting helmet that is approved by the CPSC for the activity they are doing (biking, skateboarding, etc). Why not take your child with you to pick it out at the shop, so he can have a say in the color and design? And, it may sound silly, but don't forget to fasten the chin strap -- lots of people don't bother. Make a family rule: no helmet, no wheels. And parents and caregivers, you must serve as an example: wear your own helmet!

### **Never Wait in a Hot Car**

It only takes 10 minutes for a car to heat up by 19 degrees. Every so often, we hear news stories of parents forgetting infants or leaving a sleeping toddler in the car, and tragedies that ensue. Never leave a child alone in a car, even for a minute. Degrees can be deceiving. Fatalities can occur at temperatures as low as the mid-50s because a vehicle heats up so quickly. Children are at a great risk for heat stroke because their bodies heat up three to five times faster than an adult's does. Cracking a window? Not a solution. Some advanced technologies are still being developed that may help prevent heat stroke deaths in vehicles, but nothing has been proven effective yet.

### **Create a Summer Survival Kit**

Here is some smart stuff that Dr. Lichenstein recommends parents and caregivers carry around in a purse, bag or car for summer emergencies:

- Cell phone
- Water
- Medications for chronic conditions
- Bandages
- Antibiotic cream for cuts and scrapes
- Crushable icepack for bruises
- Benadryl
- An epi-pen for a person with known allergies
- Sun protection
- Hats and sunglasses
- Insect repellent
- Tweezers

Don't get overwhelmed by all this information and decide to keep your kids locked indoors all summer, hidden under the bed. Summer is a time for having fun, and a few bug bites and scrapes are worth it. Just make sure you and your summer nanny or babysitter are informed about these important summer safety tips -- print these tips out, so you can refresh yourself often -- then stop worrying, go have fun and enjoy your summer!

Finally, let's review the basic year-round crime prevention attitudes:

- **Lock your car when you're not in it (both on the street and in your garage).**
- **Don't leave your automatic garage door opener in your car—take it with you.**
- **Don't leave your garage door open when you're not in the garage.**
- **Lock the door between your garage and your home.**
- **Lock your back gate.**
- **Be situationally aware wherever you are; home, school, supermarket, mall, etc.**
- **Report to the police in a timely manner (as soon as practicable) suspicious people in neighborhood—get full license plate numbers and accurate descriptions of the suspicious persons.**

- **Don't let your house convey the "not home" look—use lights on timers, make arrangements for mail and newspapers, etc.**
- **If a stranger knocks on your front door or rings the doorbell, don't open the door. Instead in a loud, forceful voice say, "Who is it? What do you want." (The stranger will probably make some lame excuse and then walk away. If he/she hears nothing from inside the house, stand by. In 5 to 15 minutes someone will be in your back yard and trying to kick in your back door!)**

Please feel free to e-mail me if you have any questions or suggestions. May we together work to make Kimberlea an even better place to live and raise our families.

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

## **HELP KHA GO GREEN!**

Help KHA protect the environment and save on expenses! Start receiving the quarterly newsletter, crime alerts and important updates via email by visiting and following the easy steps under "News" at [www.kimberleahome.com](http://www.kimberleahome.com).

**Thanks for supporting KHA Go Green!**

## **KIMBERLEA HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION AND DUES**

### **What does \$50 annually mean to you?**

Thank you to everyone who has paid their 2017 KHA Homeowners Association Dues! We have received dues from 113 households to-date for 2017. While this is great progress, we still have 211 families who have yet to pay their 2017 dues!

Please keep in mind that many other neighborhoods in the Dallas area require a mandatory homeowners association fee of well over \$50 per month. While Kimberlea dues are voluntary, we hope you agree \$50 annually is a reasonable amount to help your neighborhood association continue to thrive, provide such wonderful activities and to keep our neighborhood beautiful.

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 and the Holiday Light Contest. Learn more about these events and activities at [www.kimberleahome.com](http://www.kimberleahome.com). Dues are also applied to the city's required annual maintenance for all five Kimberlea entrances.

KHA dues are \$50 per home annually. Traditionally we collect dues at Oktoberfest and subsequently provide a reminder in January to collect from any outstanding homes. We will accept payment anytime during the year.

There are 324 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 KHA Treasurer's Report is provided in quarterly in the KHA newsletter.

**Your paid dues help keep Kimberlea a desirable place to live!**  
**Thank you for supporting your homeowner's association!**

**KHA TREASURER'S REPORT**  
**May 12, 2017**

Previous balance as February 21, 2017	\$ 5,370.94
Credits:	
Membership dues	\$ 400.00
TOTAL CREDITS	\$ 400.00
Debits	
Entryway maintenance 3 months	\$ 675.00
Entrance updates and mulch	\$ 475.00
Newsletter and invoice printing	\$ 162.49
TOTAL DEBITS	(\$ 1,312.49)
Balance as of May 12, 2017	\$ 4,458.45

113 families have paid their 2017 dues.

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**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. Please see "Help KHA Go Green" in this newsletter for online registration details.*

KHA membership dues are \$50 annually.

Please send your check payable to:

**KHA** c/o Libby Perry, Treasurer

3325 Canoncita Lane

Plano, TX 75023