

KHA News

Winter 2014-2015

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

UPCOMING KHA DATES TO REMEMBER

-- More Details, page 4 --

HOLIDAY LIGHT JUDGING

Justin Jones and Sarah Rains home, 3523 South Echo Trail

RSVP Requested: slrotr07@yahoo.com

Friday, December 12th at 6:45pm

SANTA VISITS KIMBERLEA

Carrie and Grant Beard's home, 3720 Candelaria Drive

RSVP Requested: carriebeard2007@gmail.com

Sunday, Dec 14th, 2:00pm – 4:00pm

UPDATED KHA DIRECTORY AVAILABLE NOW (ONLINE)

Our KHA online directory is updated twice a year. The winter 2014/2015 updates, including names, addresses and phone numbers have been completed. Members who have paid their 2015 dues are marked with an (**) by their name. Names without (**) lists contact information for the corresponding address from the last time we received dues at that address – some as current as 2015, others may be 10 years old.

The Directory is a benefit for KHA members and can be accessed with a username and password at www.kimberleahome.com. If you paid your 2015 dues and need the username and password, contact Libby Perry, lperry3325@verizon.net or Carrie Beard, carriebeard2007@gmail.com. Paper copies of the directories are available; contact Libby Perry.

KHA 2014 OKTOBERFEST

Thank you for joining us at KHA's Annual Oktoberfest. We appreciate you being a part of the day and submitting your 2015 KHA dues. It was a perfect day filled with live German music, food, fun and fantastic company. We would especially like to thank our neighbors on Stagecoach for letting us take over their street and yards for the afternoon. Several people asked, "How does Oktoberfest come together?" Well, the answer is, "Oktoberfest is a labor of love, and we are so grateful to these neighbors for loving Kimberlea."

Dave and Felicie Brown: Thanks for getting us started by acquiring all the signatures we needed from Stagecoach residents. Thanks for being on trash duty and always being willing to help. It won't be the same in years to come without you both!

Pat and Terry Moore: Hands down, we could not do this every year without you and your family's help. Thank you for taking care of all the beverage/cooler needs and for letting us take over your yard. Terry, thanks for being part of the "best grill meister duo" on earth. Moore's, we would never get set up or cleaned up without you, thanks so much.

Bill and Martie Whittekin: Thank you so much for devoting your entire day to replenishing and cleaning up the food table. You both graciously do this job so everyone else enjoys the day. We also appreciate you helping set up and clean up. P.S. I will schedule for a fresh cleanup crew next year. Bill, thank you for being part of KHA's amazing grill meister duo; you guys make a great team.

Marshall Kovacs: Thank you for year after year bringing tables, chairs, tents and helping with the set up and tear down. We really appreciate your participation Marshall.

Libby Perry: Thanks for setting up/managing our registration table and bringing all of the supplies, chairs ... and just about any last minute thing I email you about ... you never disappoint Libby, thanks for being so devoted to KHA. Please tell Dave, thanks for documenting the day with pictures!

Amanda Johnson, Libby Perry, Linda Fox, Marie Winger and Melissa Dorosh: Brauts, Brauts, Brauts - Pre'Boil'n Brauts! Thank you ladies (and husbands) so much. It would not be Oktoberfest without our two cases of links. Everyone appreciates you boiling hours ahead of time so they can enjoy their braut hot off the grill.

Paty and Rodney, Melissa and Stanley: Thank you Lindemeir's, your annual contribution of fabulous German sauer kraut was delicious as always. As novice sauer krauters, the Hailey's did a marvelous job also. Thank you all for cooking and providing a key element of our meal.

Julie Campbell and Cathy Stutzman: I have lost count of how many years in a row you ladies have stepped up to cook the German potato salad. It is a time consuming dish, so thank you. Everyone really appreciates your delectable contribution.

Libby, Julie, Bunny Williams, Linda, Felicie, Melissa and Amanda: Wow, our KHA volunteers are too generous. Thanks to each of you for devoting an hour of your party time to oversee the registration table. Thanks for greeting folks, giving them info and making everyone feel welcome.

Jacki Cummings and Brandi Lilley: Thank you, to you and your families, for letting us take over your yards for the day. Between the bounce house and a hundred chairs stretched across the way, using your yards (and the Moore's) really helped bring everyone together - thanks.

Richard and Dawna Mayorga and Marie: Thanks for pitching in at the end to clean up; it did not go unnoticed!

Cathy Stutzman and Christie Patterson: Thanks for lending tables for the food set up ... every year. Each dependable contribution makes my job easier, so thank you very much!

Rachael, Carolyn and Claire: Last but not least, to my favorite high school seniors in the world. You never let us down at any event. Rachael and Carolyn your face painting skills rock; thanks for devoting your time, talent and patience with our little folks of the neighborhood. Claire, Claire, Claire there is a special place in Bounce House Heaven for you. Thank you for wrangling kids all day.

Did we snap your picture at Oktoberfest?



See more photos at www.kimberleahome.com/photogallery.



KIMBERLEA HOLIDAY LIGHT JUDGING CONTEST



Fri, December 12, 2014

6:45pm

3523 South Echo Trail

RSVP requested

The KHA Holiday Light judging will be held on Friday evening, December 12th at 6:45pm. All KHA members are welcome to join this fun crowd for a night of lights, lawns and laughter! Last year's winners, Justin Jones and Sarah Rains, are hosting the event at their home, 3523 South Echo Trail. This is an evening to enjoy with adults only. Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share, and BYOB. Food will be served before the gathering moves out to judge and pick this year's winner. RSVP to Sarah at slotr07@yahoo.com or 469.525.8125.

TIME TO DECORATE ... WILL YOUR HOME WIN BEST IN SHOW?

Light and decorate your house and yard for the holidays by Friday, December 12th. Only current KHA members will be eligible to win. The winner will display the "KHA Holiday Lights Winner" sign for the remainder of the holiday season, receive **free membership dues** for 2015 and will have the honor of hosting next year's judging party.



SANTA VISITS KIMBERLEA

Sunday, December 14, 2014

2:00pm - 4:00pm

3620 Candelaria Drive

RSVP Requested

Ho Ho Ho! Santa is coming to town and making a special stop in our neighborhood at the KHA President's house (guess she has been good this year). Please join us at Carrie and Grant Beard's home to have your picture taken in this special, crowd free visit with Santa. Enjoy some holiday crafts including classic reindeer food for Christmas Eve! Light refreshments will be served. **Don't forget your camera and your holiday spirit!**

RSVP Requested. Please contact Carrie Beard at: 214.202.2547 or carriebeard2007@gmail.com.

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



HOLIDAY FUN IN OUR NECK OF THE WOODS

Lions Club: Plano's Annual Christmas Parade

parades.planolions.org

WHEN: Saturday, December 13, 2014 at 9:00AM

PARADE ROUTE: The parade starts in the parking lot of the Plano ISD administration building. It will travel west on 15th St., then north on Independence. Then east on Parkhaven ending in the parking lot of Plano Senior High.

CRIME WATCH

Holiday Safety – A Time for Sharing by Larry Kryske

The holidays are upon us. It's hard to believe 2014 will soon be in our rear view mirror. Holidays present a host of unique safety and security challenges. For example, your trash after Christmas (those boxes stacked up outside) gives potential thieves a shopping list of things they might want to "recycle" for cash.

Burglars know that many households have new, and oftentimes expensive, items in their homes following the December holidays—especially items such as new computers and peripherals, stereo components, televisions, cameras and other electronic equipment. In too many cases, residents make it easy for burglars to figure out which homes to target by putting boxes that identify their new gifts in plain view with their other garbage. Avoid becoming an easy target for post-holiday burglars by not leaving boxes for new electronics and other items in the alley or other garbage pick-up locations for several days at a time. Instead, break down any boxes you are throwing out, put them in garbage bags and place them inside a trash can. (In many cases, especially with computer equipment, you might consider keeping the boxes for safe storage, shipping or moving in the future.) Think about keeping broken-down boxes inside—in a garage, for example—until the evening before your regular garbage pick-up. Some burglars actually look inside garbage cans for evidence of holiday gifts.

A recent trend involves individuals stealing UPS, Fedex, USPS, etc. packages left at your front door. This has become a nationwide problem. Here are numerous tips on how to protect packages, that are being sent to you, from theft, and also how to safeguard anything you're sending out. (Robert Siciliano, CEO of IDTheftSecurity.com)

1. Get a tracking number from the shipping company.
2. Require a signature with the delivery.
3. If you won't be home, have the company leave the package at a local shipping center.
4. Set up an obvious surveillance camera with your home security system.
5. If UPS is making the delivery, get onboard with their U.P.S. My Choice program, which sends an e-mail or text message to the customer just prior to package arrival; it will be rerouted if nobody is home.
6. Insist that the driver leave the package in an inconspicuous area.
7. Have the driver leave the package at your apartment's or condo's office.
8. Retrieve your mail as quickly as possible after delivery.
9. If you can't retrieve it daily, have a trusted person get it.
10. If you're traveling, have the post office hold your mail until you get back.
11. Never received mail you were expecting? Contact the sender to see if it was sent. If so, file a complaint with the post office. This also applies if the contents of mail are missing.
12. Bring your checks or money orders to a postal collection box (personally give it to a postal worker) for the delivery driver to pick up; don't leave checks or money orders in your home mailbox.
13. Never leave packages outside your door.
14. Alert recipients of your packages as to when they are to expect them.
15. Insure any packages you send.

The following Holiday Safety Tips were compiled, in cooperation with the LAPD Crime Prevention Section, to contribute to the safety and security of people during the holiday season. The holiday season is always a special time of year. It is also a time when busy people become careless and

vulnerable to theft and other holiday crime. We can never be too careful, too prepared or too aware. Please share this information with family, friends and neighbors.

Driving

- Avoid driving alone or at night.
- Keep all car doors locked and windows closed while in or out of your car. Set your alarm or use an anti-theft device.
- If you must shop at night, park in a well-lighted area.
- Avoid parking next to vans, trucks with camper shells, or cars with tinted windows.
- Park as close as you can to your destination and take notice of where you parked.
- Never leave your car unoccupied with the motor running or with children inside.
- Do not leave packages or valuables on the seat of your car. This creates a temptation for thieves. If you must leave something in the car, lock it in the trunk or put it out of sight.
- Be sure to locate your keys prior to going to your car.
- Keep a secure hold on your purse, handbag and parcels. Do not put them down or on top of the car in order to open the door.
- When approaching or leaving your vehicle, be aware of your surroundings.
- Do not approach your car alone if there are suspicious people in the area.
- Ask mall or store security for an escort before leaving your shopping location.

Automated Teller Machine (ATM)

- If you must use an ATM, choose one that is located inside a police station, mall, or well-lighted location. Withdraw only the amount of cash you need.
- Protect your PIN by shielding the ATM keypad from anyone who is standing near you.
- Do not throw your ATM receipt away at the ATM location.

Shopping

- Shop during daylight hours whenever possible. If you must shop at night, go with a friend or family member.
- Dress casually and comfortably.
- Avoid wearing expensive jewelry.
- Do not carry a purse or wallet, if possible.
- Always carry your Driver License or Identification Card along with necessary cash, checks and/or a credit card you expect to use.
- Even though you are rushed and thinking about a thousand things, stay alert to your surroundings.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash.
- Pay for purchases with a check or credit card when possible.
- Keep cash in your front pocket.
- Notify the credit card issuer immediately if your credit card is lost, stolen or misused.
- Keep a record of all of your credit card numbers in a safe place at home.
- Be extra careful if you do carry a wallet or purse. They are the prime targets of criminals in crowded shopping areas, transportation terminals, bus stops, on buses and other rapid transit.
- Avoid overloading yourself with packages. It is important to have clear visibility and freedom of motion to avoid mishaps.
- Beware of strangers approaching you for any reason. At this time of year, "con-artists" may try various methods of distracting you with the intention of taking your money or belongings.

Children

- If possible, leave small children at home with a trusted babysitter.
- Teach your child to go to a store clerk and ask for help in case your child is separated from you.
- Teach children to stay close to you at all times while shopping.
- Never allow children to make unaccompanied trips to the restroom.
- Children should never be allowed to go to the car alone and they should never be left alone in the car.
- Teach children their full name, address and telephone number to give to police officers or mall security. Teach children to immediately inform you if a stranger is bothering them.

At Home

- Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave the house, even for a few minutes.
- When leaving home for an extended time, have a neighbor or family member watch your house and pick up your newspapers and mail.
- Indoor and outdoor lights should be on an automatic timer.

- Leave a radio or television on so the house looks and sounds occupied.
- Large displays of holiday gifts should not be visible through the windows and doors of your home.
- When setting up a Christmas tree or other holiday display, make sure doors and passageways are clear inside your home.
- Be sure your Christmas tree is mounted on a sturdy base so children, elderly persons or family pets cannot pull it over on themselves.
- If you use lights on your Christmas tree ensure the wiring is not damaged or frayed. Frayed or damaged wiring can cause a fire.
- Place your Christmas tree in water or wet sand to keep it green.
- Never place wrapping paper in your fireplace.

Strangers at Your Door

- Be aware that criminals sometimes pose as couriers delivering gifts.
- It is not uncommon for criminals to take advantage of the generosity of people during the holiday season by soliciting donations door-to-door for charitable causes although no charity is involved.
- Ask for their identification, and find out how the donated funds will be used. If you are not satisfied, do not donate.
- Donate to a recognized charitable organization.

Hosting a Party

- Have non-alcoholic beverages available for party guests.
- Find alternative transportation for intoxicated guests.
- Arrange for an official designated driver for your party who will not drink at all.

Attending a Party

- Have something to eat before consuming alcoholic beverages.
- Eat high protein foods that will stay in your stomach longer and slow the absorption of alcohol into your system.
- Remember only time will eliminate the alcohol from your body.
- Know your safe limit.
- Never drink and drive.

HOLIDAY MENTAL HEALTH TIPS

The holidays are an exciting time of year for kids, and to help ensure they have a safe and happy holiday season, here are some safety and mental health tips from the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP).

- Take care of yourself - Just like they say on the airplane, "In the event of an emergency, put your own oxygen mask on first, and then help children travelling with you to put theirs on." Children respond to the emotional tone of their important adults, so managing your emotions successfully can help your children handle theirs better, too.
- Make a plan to focus on one thing at a time - Try a few ideas from "mindfulness" as a strategy to balance the hustle and bustle of things like shopping, cooking, and family get-togethers during the holidays: stop and pay attention to what is happening at the moment, focus your attention on one thing about it, notice how you are feeling at the time, withhold immediate judgment, and instead be curious about the experience.
- Give to others - Make a new holiday tradition to share your time with families who have less than you do, for example, if your child is old enough, encourage him or her to join you in volunteering to serve a holiday meal at your local food bank or shelter. Help your child write a letter to members of the armed forces stationed abroad who can't be home with their own family during the holidays.
- Keep routines the same – stick to your child's usual sleep and mealtime schedules when you can to reduce stress and help your child and you enjoy the holidays.
- Keep your household rules in effect. Adults still have to pay the bills and kids still need to brush their teeth before bedtime!
- Teach the skills that children will need for the holidays in the weeks and months ahead. For example, if you plan to have a formal, sit-down dinner, practice in advance by having a formal sit-down dinner every Sunday night.
- Don't feel pressured to "over-spend." Think about making one or two gifts instead of buying everything. Help your child make a gift for his or her other parent, grandparents, or other important adults and friends. Chances are, those gifts will be the most treasured ones and will teach your child many important lessons that purchasing presents can't.
- Most important of all, enjoy the Holidays for what they are - time to enjoy with your family. So, be a family, do things together like sledding or playing board games, spend time visiting with relatives, neighbors and friends.

My previous articles on situational awareness apply even more during the holidays. The season is one of sharing. We can do this by keeping watch for each other in our neighborhood. Be alert for strangers who don't belong in our area. Report suspicious activity to the Plano Police. (Have detailed descriptions especially full license plate numbers.)

One hundred years ago a great war was raging in Europe. Autumn of 1914 saw a war of maneuver as the Germans made a rapid dash through Belgium and France in hopes of capturing Paris before the Russians mobilized their forces. But the British and French troops were able to stop the advance. All sides regrouped and dug fortified trenches that stretched 440 miles from the English Channel in Belgium to the Swiss-French border.

The resulting stalemate on the Western Front lasted for four long, terrible years characterized by mud, mayhem, and murder. Soldiers on all sides suffered greatly and displayed great fortitude and courage. As the first Christmas approached in 1914, a brief miracle blossomed in no man's land between the opposing trenches. Please enjoy this beautiful reenactment of the Christmas Truce produced by Sainsbury's, a huge UK supermarket business. <http://www.youtube.com/user/Sainsburys>. Happy holidays!

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.

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

GO GREEN IN 2015

Only a few more weeks left this year to help KHA Go Green! 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.

203 out of 331 Homes To Go...Thanks for supporting KHA Go Green in 2015!

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 and the Holiday Light Contest. 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 and subsequently provide an invoice in January to collect from any outstanding homes.** 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 Kimberlea Homeowners' Association.

KHA TREASURER'S REPORT
November 22, 2014

Previous balance as August 14, 2014	\$5,242.04
Credits:	
Membership Dues	\$ 2,275.00
Oktoberfest Guests	\$ 165.00
TOTAL CREDITS	\$ 2,440.00
Debits	
Entryway maintenance 2 months	\$ 360.00
Newsletter Printing & Postage	\$ 122.38
Oktoberfest	\$ 1,697.43
Yearly Web Hosting	\$ 120.00
TOTAL DEBITS	(\$2,299.81)
Balance as of November 22, 2014	\$5,382.23

73 families have paid their 2015 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 8 of this newsletter "Go Green in 2015" for online registration 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