

North View News

March 2010



North View Easter Egg Hunt!

Join us for a great time at this Hopping Happening and meet the Easter Bunny!

*Come and celebrate Easter with your family, friends and neighbors at the
North View Community Center (Pool)*

Saturday April 3rd from 11:00am to 1:00pm

THINGS YOUR BURGLAR WON'T TELL YOU:

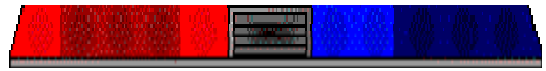
1. Of course I look familiar. I was here just last week cleaning your carpets, painting your shutters, or delivering your new refrigerator.
2. Hey, thanks for letting me use the bathroom when I was working in your yard last week. While I was in there, I unlatched the back window to make my return a little easier.
3. Love those flowers. That tells me you have taste ... And taste means there are nice things inside. Those yard toys your kids leave out always make me wonder what type of gaming system they have.
4. Yes, I really do look for newspapers piled up on the driveway and I might leave a pizza flyer on your front door to see how long it takes you to remove it.
5. If decorative glass is part of your front entrance, don't let your alarm company install the control pad where I can see if it's set. That makes it just too easy.
6. A good security company alarms the window over the sink and the windows on the second floor, which often access the master bedroom & your jewelry. It's not a bad idea to put motion detectors up there.
7. It's raining, you're fumbling with your umbrella, and you forget to lock your door-understandable. But understand this: I don't take a day off because of bad weather.
8. I always knock first. If you answer, I'll ask for directions somewhere or offer to clean your gutters. (Don't take me up on it.)
9. Do you really think I won't look in your sock drawer? I always check dresser drawers, the bedside table, and the medicine cabinet.
10. Here's a helpful hint: I almost never go into kids' rooms.
11. You're right: I won't have enough time to break into that safe where you keep your valuables, but if it's not bolted down I'll take it with me.
12. A loud TV or radio can be a better deterrent than the best alarm system. If you're reluctant to leave your TV on while you're out of town, you can buy a \$35 device that works on a timer and simulates the flickering glow of a real television. (Find it at faketv.com.)

EIGHT MORE THINGS A BURGLAR WON'T TELL YOU:

1. Sometimes I carry a clipboard. Sometimes I dress like a lawn guy and carry a rake. I do my best to never look like a crook.
2. The two things I hate most: loud dogs and nosy neighbors.
3. I'll break a window to get in, even if it makes a little noise. If your neighbor hears one loud sound, he'll stop what he's doing and wait to hear it again. If he doesn't hear it again, he'll just go back to what he was doing. It's human nature.
4. I'm not complaining, but why would you pay all that money for a fancy alarm system and leave your house without setting it?
5. I love looking in your windows looking for signs that you're home and for flat screen TVs or gaming systems I'd like. I'll drive or walk through your neighborhood at night before you close the blinds just to pick my targets.
6. Avoid announcing your vacation on your Facebook page. It's easier than you think to look up your address.
7. To you, leaving that window open just a crack during the day is a way to let in a little fresh air. To me, it's an invitation.
8. If you don't answer when I knock, I try the door. Occasionally, I hit the jackpot and walk right in.

Sources: *Convicted burglars in North Carolina, Oregon, California, & Kentucky; Security consultant Chris McGoey, who runs crimedoctor.com; & Richard T. Wright, criminology professor at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, who interviewed 105 burglars for his book *Burglars on the Job*.*

Emergency Assistance & Your House Numbers



Homeowners should inspect their address number and street signs to see if emergency teams can easily find your house. Many street numbers on homes are either difficult to read, missing numbers, or just not there. This can be a problem for emergency vehicles trying to find your home in the event of a medical, police, or fire emergency. City of Houston Ordinance requires street numbers be clearly visible from the public street. Please check your house and see if you can find your address numbers during both the daylight and night time hours.

The FM 1960 Medians have started!

TXDOT began work installing the medians & protected turns in January on FM 1960. The project starts at Mills Road & work moves east, & again at Falling Creek moving east as well. The work will be done at night – seven days a week. During the day FM 1960 will return to 6 lanes of traffic & in many areas. 7 lanes. TXDOT is working diligently to minimize inconvenience to drivers & the project is scheduled to be completed in approximately eight months.

After the roadway construction is finished, a state of the art intelligent system for EMS, will be installed that will serve as a model for the rest of the country and will allow EMS to change the signals to green as they approach intersections.

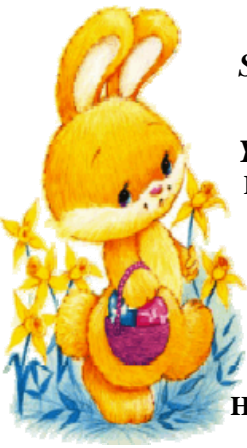
Additionally, after the roadway project is completed, boring & irrigation lines will begin for the future landscaping on FM 1960. The Green Medians committee, a committee of the Houston Northwest Chamber of Commerce, was established in 2004 to change the planned concrete to green, landscaped medians.

The water & maintenance for the medians will be provided by 14 water districts that have formed a joint powers board.

A fundraiser for the Green Medians program—Stroll-a-Thon for Green Medians is scheduled for Saturday, April 10 from 10 am -12 noon at The Vintage. This will be a fun event with everyone wearing heels, tennis shoes, loafers, flip flops, etc. and strolling for a 20 minute walk around the Vintage shops. Form a team or sign up as an individual, or just come out and join the fun. Prizes will be given for special shoes & the most money raised. There will be raffles, prizes & surprises. The lunch & band will be donated by THE LUXE and the event is sponsored by the Houston Northwest Chamber of Commerce, The LUXE, Vintage Park, WE-WIN! and Green Medians. For more information about Green Medians or the Stroll-a-Thon for Green call The Chamber at 281-440-4160.

Join your neighbors who have contributed to this project to improve our area, revitalize FM 1960 and protect our property values. **Thank you and Think Green!**





Spring Has Sprung!

**North View
Yard Of The Month**

Program will be begin again this year from April-September
Yard of the month winners will receive a \$50 gift certificate compliments of
Houston Plants & Garden

Timely Tip for April Gardeners

Many gardeners are looking for ways to get the most out of gardening and landscape enjoyment while preserving and protecting our environment. Earth-Kind™ gardening uses research-proven techniques to achieve this and it can be done in any home garden.

The objective of Earth-Kind™ gardening is to combine the best of organic & traditional gardening & landscaping principles. Begin with proper flower bed preparation. Amend your soils with organic compost & expanded shale to open up & aerate clay soils. Use seeds & plants that have been proven to thrive in our Texas weather & always top dress all plantings with a 2-3 inch layer of mulch.

Earth-Kind™ is an important designation given to select roses by the Texas A&M University Agriculture program. Earth-Kind™ Roses have been through rigorous statewide testing and evaluation by a team of horticultural experts. They tend to be drought tolerant, disease resistant and overall low maintenance. These roses produce abundant blooms and beautiful foliage. One of the most popular Earth-Kind™ variety is 'Knock-Out®' which will grace your landscape with cherry red blooms until the first hard frost.



GOT INK? If you have any type of printer ink jet, ink cartridge or toner that you usually throw away when empty **STOP!** We're collecting printer cartridges & recycling them to help pay for the cost of our newsletter. If you would like to donate empty ink jets or cartridges please contact Barb at: northview.barbara@sbcglobal.net



**Relay For Life
April 30th at 7:00pm
Klein Oak High School**

Cancer. A word that no one wants to hear, but too many of us do. Everyone has had their lives touched in some way by this disease. Someone that you love, or maybe even yourself, has been affected. Too many people suffer and too many loved ones are lost. It needs to change and by working together we can change it.

This year, North View is proud to be a part of Relay For Life and will have a team, *Soldiers For Life*, at the American Cancer Society Relay For Life event dedicated to raising funds to help find a cure for cancer and to spreading community awareness about cancer to those that may need help. Please join your North View neighbors April 30th to **Celebrate** with those that have won the fight against cancer, **Remember** loved ones lost to this illness, and **Fight Back** with the people that we care about that are still battling cancer.

It will be a fun filled evening for family and kids, with music, games, prizes, food and good information. To learn more about Relay For Life please go to:

www.relayforlife.org/northwesttx
or Contact Belinda at: 832 229-1443

Celebrate Remember Fight Back

Curb Appeal

We all strive to keep our homes and our neighborhood looking good. That not only keeps our property value up, it encourages those looking for a new place to call home to consider living in North View. Plus an un-kept neighborhood is an open invitation for vandals, thieves & other mischief makers that sends a message that we don't care about our neighborhood. Here's a few tips & reminders to keep North View looking good:

- Fences: Inspect your fence and replace any broken or old boards.
- Trash Cans: Be sure to take in trash cans after trash pickup.
- Litter: When you get out of your car, take a few seconds to pick up any trash, bottles or cans that may have blown onto your lawn or into the street in front of your house.
- Bar-b-que Pits: After the party, be sure to put your bar-b-que pit out of site of the front of your home.
- Parking: Avoid parking on lawns. Use the driveway or street so our neighborhood looks good and your lawn looks good too.
Be North View Proud!

Notice of Annual Meeting

You are invited to attend the **ANNUAL MEETING** Of the membership for the North View Homeowners Association

**Thursday, March 25th 2010
at 7:30 PM**

**Ponderosa Fire Station
17061 Rolling Creek Dr.
Houston TX 77090**

The purpose of the Annual meeting is the election of two (2) positions to the Board of Directors of the North View Homeowners Association, Inc. to serve for a three year term; and any other business that may be properly presented during the meeting.



Please bring the enclosed Proxy/ballot with you to the meeting March 25th or fold, Address, stamp it and mail it directly to
Chaparral Management

Each Proxy/ballot returned will be entered in a drawing for a \$100, \$75 or \$50 prize. You must return the ballot to be entered and the prize doubles if you attend the meeting!



**North View
Garage Sale!**

Time to do some spring cleaning and get paid to do it! Join your North View neighbors for our Community Wide Garage Sale
May 15th 7:00am-??

Bake Sale Fundraiser....

**Join your neighbors in the
Fight Against Cancer!
North View Soldiers For Life**

**Bake sale
April 10th 11:00am – 2:00pm
at Ponderosa Fire Station on
Imperial Valley**

There will also be popcorn & snow cones on sale for the kids & Kids at heart! Come out, check out the goodies and help us raise funds to find a cure for cancer. Join the fight! We hope to see you there.

Ponderosa FD Round Up



Your fire rating on your homeowners insurance should be verified with your insurance company. The Ponderosa Fire Department is a Public Protection Class 3 department. You should review your policy & verify that the PPC is a 3 – contact your agent to assure you are receiving a cost reduction for the PPC rating. The Ponderosa FD is rated in the top 5% of our nation's fire department service levels. You have supported that over the years and you deserve the insurance discount.

Many people are curious about the basic background of their community based fire department. The Ponderosa FD is a 75 member, primarily volunteer fire department. Volunteers are at three fire stations; Ponderosa, Cypressdale & North View in a 13 square mile area protecting over 48,000 people and hundreds of businesses.

Chief Fred Windisch directs the departments' operations in conjunction with six appointed command staff positions. All volunteers are in constant communications with the Cypress Creek EMS dispatch center via a radio pager. We now have 9 full time firefighters (3 per 24 hour shift) and a cadre of personnel assisting the force paid an hourly rate Monday through Friday to provide additional staffing during our volunteers' work time. Volunteers staff Head quarters every night.

The recent hiring of three full time firefighters is primarily funded by a federal grant that provides 50% of the total costs over a five year period.

Visit our webpage: www.ponderosavfd.org



*Happy Easter
North View!*

North View HOA
P.O. Box 681007
Houston TX 77268-1007

Upcoming 2010 Events

- *March: Annual Meeting
- *April: Easter Egg Hunt
- *April: Yard Of The Month
- *May: Garage Sale
- *May: Pool Opening
- *June: Bar-b-que
- *October: National Night Out
- *October: Fall Festival
- *November: Garage Sale
- *December: Christmas Caroling



Got A Bright Idea?

Drop by a meeting and tell our North View HOA Board of Directors about it. Remember...YOU are the North View Homeowner Association. We want to hear from you!



The North View Social & Recreational Committee could use your help! If you can volunteer to help during the Easter Egg Hunt on April 3rd contact: Belinda at: 832 229-1443

It's only for a few hours & it's a great way to get the kids together for some good clean fun, help your community, and meet your neighbors. Make a difference in your community. Be North View Proud!

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Chaparral Management
Community Manager
Gloria: 281 537-0957 x27

Betty: ACC Applications

Gloria: Deed Restriction Violation
Report park or pool area
maintenance problems.
Questions regarding your
statement and accounting.

Precinct 4 Constable Department:
Emergency: 281 376-3472

Centerpoint Energy:
www.centerpointenergy.com/outage/
713 207-2222 or 1 888 572-4399
Choose option 1 for English, option
4 for street light outages.

Harris County Vicious Dog Info:
www.countypets.com/webbad.html
281 999-3191

IMPORTANT WEBSITES

NORTHVIEW
(www.northviewnews.com)

Precinct 4 - Community Assistance:
www.cp4.hctx.net/cad/index/html

Precinct 4 Constable Department
www.co.harris.tx.us/pct4/

Harris County Health Department:
www.hd.co.harris.tx.us/Display.html

Cypress Creek Flood Control
Coalition: www.ccfcc.org



**Climb Out Of
Your Shell And
Attend A Meeting
March 25th!**

