

NORHILL NEWS

NEWS FROM NORHILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

MARCH/APRIL 2013 VOL. 24, NO. 2

Spring Sportacular means family fun



Proctor Plaza Park will be alive with laughter, camaraderie and spirited competition on May 4 when we unveil our first-ever Norhill Spring Sportacular. It promises to be fun for Norhill residents of all ages.

And because it's also National Lemonade Day, you'll be able to sample the wares of young lemonade entrepreneurs. For a modest fee, of course.

Starting at 10:00 a.m., we'll stage a series of "athletic" events (see preliminary schedule right) on the sports field, which you can experience either as a participant or casual observer. We'll have prizes for the winners, and tables and chairs set up under the basketball court cover for non-participants. Restrooms in the park building will be open.

The 4-hour event will have something for everyone. Bring a picnic lunch and join in the fun. It's open to all Norhill residents — you do NOT have to be a member of Norhill Neighborhood Association to participate. There's no admission charge, so mark your calendar now and make plans to come.

Volunteers and Event Coordinators Needed

Contact Trisha Perry at trishaperry@n-o-v-a.com or call (713) 824-3872 if you can help plan and coordinate Spring Sportacular activities. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Where: **Proctor Plaza Park, 803 West Temple**

When: **Saturday, May 4, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm**

Schedule of Events

- 10:00** Whiffle Ball Golf- Longest Drive Competition
Horseshoe Tournament- Registration
- 10:15** Giant Kickball Bowling
- 10:30** Large Bubble Fun
- 10:45** Frisbee Target Practice
- 11:00** Ring Toss
Horseshoe Tournament- Begins
Checkers (free play, no competition)
- 11:15** 3-Legged Relay Race
Leap Frog Relay Race
Potato Sack Relay Race
- 11:30** Water Balloon Toss
- 11:45** Simon Says "Competition"
- 12:00** Musical Chairs Cake Walk
Croquet Course Open (free play, no competition)
Bocce Ball "Court" Open (free play, no competition)
- 12:15** Grapefruit in Pantyhose Race
- 12:30** Hula Hoop Competition
- 12:45** Bean Bag Toss
- 1:00** Obstacle Course
- 1:15** Egg/Spoon Relay Race
Egg Toss
- 1:30** Hippy Hop Ball Race
Pin the Tail on the Donkey Game
- 1:45** Tug-O-War (East Norhill vs North Norhill)
- 2:00** Sportacular Ends, Park Building Closes

Times and events subject to change. Check www.norhill.org for the latest schedule.

President's Message

We're off to a rousing start for 2013! Our tree planting project put more than 70 new trees in the ground for 37 Norhill residents in February and attracted 20 new members who weren't on the roster last year. Special thanks to Mike Clennan for leading the way.



The January 29 Member Appreciation Dinner was almost standing room only, and that got our annual membership drive off to a fast start. We have twenty percent more members this year already versus 2012, and we still have ten months to go. Kuddos to Tom Patton for all his organizing work.

Trish Perry is planning the May 4 Spring Sportacular (see front page). It will be our first community-wide social event in several years and promises to be a lot of fun for the entire family. Hope you will make an effort to come.

The Norhill Cycling Club is active thanks to the leadership of Theresa Doyle. We will have had our second ride by the time you read this. Fifty people showed up at the February meeting to hear representatives from Bike Houston tell us about the bike trail opportunities. It was exciting and enlightening.

The Norhill Diner's Group has added new members and now splits into two groups each time it meets. George and Dona Reynolds have done a fabulous job spearheading that activity.

And Rebekah Mayfield is arranging some very interesting programs for our monthly meetings. It only takes an hour the last Tuesday of each month to come and learn what's going on in Norhill. Plus, you will be rewarded with an informative speaker each time.

If you're not plugged into Norhill Neighborhood Association, maybe it's time you did something about that. We'd love to have you join us.

—Bob Lamons

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Welcome kits available

Membership V.P. Tom Patton has developed a "Welcome to Norhill" packet for new Norhill residents. It contains a variety of useful information for people new to the Heights area, including information about NNA, Norhill maps, history, deed restrictions, and valuable coupons from Heights area merchants.



If you are new to Norhill, or if you know someone who is, contact Tom at tfpatton82@gmail.com and ask for a copy of the new welcome kit.

Joining NNA is easy

Our new online membership service is quick and easy to use. Just go to www.norhill.org and click on the membership heading on the home page. Four membership categories are offered (homeowner, renter, seniors 65 and over, and business).

The service is powered by PayPal, but it allows you to charge the membership to your Visa or Mastercard. You will need to create a "Norhill profile" along with a password, because that's how we keep track of who paid for what.

Interesting programs: one more reason to join NNA

Program Chair Rebekah Mayfield is giving us one more reason to get involved in NNA, because she is searching far and wide for interesting speakers and topics to keep Norhill residents informed at the monthly meetings.

At the February meeting, we had a full house for a presentation by Bike Houston on the extensive Houston bike-ways system. Regina Garcia and Tom Gall shared personal insight regarding the various trails, including the highlights and limitations of each one.



Bike Houston presentation in February

Theresa Doyle closed out the meeting with an update on the new Norhill Cycling Club and plans for future rides. She's targeting the second Sunday of each month with rides starting from Proctor Plaza Park at 9:00 a.m.

Gardening tips in March

On March 26, the appropriately named John Gardner of Buchanan's Native Plants will talk about using fertilizers to grow healthy gardens, with a special emphasis on vegetable gardens. It's perfect timing as the weather warms and we begin venturing out to work in our yards again.

Mosaic art in April

At the April 30 meeting, Roxana Nizza, owner and studio director of Nizza Mosaic Art, will explain the artful possibilities of mosaics. She will bring samples and talk about how to organize mosaic projects and what materials are needed. You will be amazed at the huge variety of things that are routinely made by her students.

If you haven't been to an NNA meeting in awhile, maybe it's time you got back in the swing. It's time well spent.

Tree Planting Project Recap

Special thanks to Mike Clennan for leading the way on our tree planting project in February. It was a huge success!



Mike Clennan supervises the Backyard Gardener crew as the first tree goes in the ground at the home of Carol Davis on Key Street.

Trees
planted:
72

Locations:
37

New
members
gained:
20

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NORHILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

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Newsletters

Louise Denly
281-870-5025

Yard of the Month

Linda Marx
713-503-0424

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **March 10** Norhill Cycling Club monthly ride
- **March 15** Norhill Diner's Group
- **March 26** NNA Monthly Meeting – Fertilizers in gardens
- **April 5** First Friday Happy Hour – Scioneaux/Brown, 802 W. Temple
- **April 14** Norhill Cycling Club monthly ride
- **April 30** NNA Monthly Meeting – Mosaic Art with Roxana Nizza
- **May 3** First Friday Happy Hour – Woods residence, 727 W. Temple
- **May 4** Norhill Spring Sportacular in Proctor Plaza Park



Norhill News
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Visit us at www.norhill.org

NORHILL YARD OF THE MONTH

Although, the winter months are a challenging time for Yard of the Month, we were able to identify two neighbors who help keep Norhill looking lovely!

Congratulations to our January recipient Stephen Prescott, 915 West Cottage, with his gorgeous snapdragons and cyclamens, and our February recipient Bill Mertz, 1007 West Cottage. With the help of his landscaping team (Jimmy Solis Landscape Design, 832 964-4754), Bill did a marvelous job managing the flower beds with seasonal bloomers.

Please help identify Yard of the Month by sending your suggestions to lindamarx@sbcglobal.net.

Other recent Yard of the Month winners:

Rachel David, 4627 Oak Ridge
Mark Scioneaux and Frank Brown, 802 W. Temple
Lynne Hoefler, 802 Cottage
Mary Wassef, 1127 Winston



Home of February Yard of the Month recipient Bill Mertz, 1007 West Cottage