

# NORHILL NEWS

NEWS FROM NORHILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2014 VOL. 25, NO. 1

## Another Norhill tree planting opportunity

If you missed the tree planting project last January, we have some good news. We're doing it again — but you have to act fast. Community Projects Director Mike Clennan has arranged to get another 70 trees from *Trees For Houston* and the City of Houston, and if you elect to do your own planting, it's absolutely free. For a \$50 fee, we'll provide an optional planting service.

*Trees For Houston* is providing thirty 15-gallon trees, a generous size for a sapling. We are receiving ten each of the following: Monterrey Oak, American Sycamore and Giant Green Magnolia. These are "private property" trees and can be planted anywhere on your property.

The City of Houston is providing forty 10-gallon trees: twenty Chalk or White Maples and twenty Crape Myrtles. These are "public property" trees and must be planted between the sidewalk and curb, or on the City easement where there are no sidewalks.



All trees are scheduled for delivery the week of February 7. If you're planting your own tree, you can pick it up at Christ The King Church (Melwood and DeGeorge St.) on February 8 between 9:00 and noon. If you're using the optional tree planting service, that will be done on February 15th.

You can sign up online by going to [norhill.org/trees](http://norhill.org/trees), or come to the January 28 NNA meeting and order your trees there. For more information, call Mike Clennan at 713-864-1204 or send him an email at [mgclennan@gmail.com](mailto:mgclennan@gmail.com).



The American sycamore, one of our most distinctive trees, will be one of the five varieties offered in the 2014 Norhill tree planting program.



Giant Green Magnolia



Crape Myrtle



Monterrey Oak



White Maple

### Barry Ward, Trees for Houston executive director to speak at January 28 meeting

Barry Ward, Executive Director of *Trees For Houston*, will be our guest speaker at the January 28 NNA monthly meeting. *Trees For Houston* was founded in 1982 as a non-profit organization dedicated to planting,

protecting and educating people in the Metropolitan Houston area on the importance of healthy trees. Since that time, they have sponsored activities responsible for planting more than 450,000 trees in our area.

Barry Ward is a certified arborist and has been executive director of *Trees For Houston* since 2008. He will give an overview of TFH programs and major projects of benefit to Houstonians.

# President's Message

Since I first got involved in the Norhill Neighborhood Association a little more than two years ago, it didn't dawn on me I'd someday be leading this organization. And certainly not this soon! But things move fast in Norhill if you haven't noticed. And we have no intention of letting them slow down anytime soon.



In this issue you're reading about the second tree planting project in two years. Thanks to Mike Clennan for making that happen for the second consecutive year. We also had a wonderful holiday party last month thanks to the hard work of Kathy Cameron and Linda Vasse. More than 130 Norhillians turned out for a full evening of fun and tasty treats at Heights Villa. Special thanks to Brendan and Cathy Gowing for donating the use of their beautiful ballroom.

Our new Social Events Director Dave Hamilton is planning a steady stream of social events to bring

Norhill neighbors together, starting with our annual member appreciation dinner in March. Stay tuned for all the details.

Membership V.P. Chris Lang reports we have surpassed the 200 mark in paid memberships if everybody who was a member last year renews their membership in 2014. His goal is 300 members by year's end! How about that? To facilitate the renewal process, we are mailing renewal forms to every Norhill resident this month.

And Deed Restrictions V.P. Lawrence Febo has put together an enthusiastic committee to help property owners understand our deed restrictions and guide alterations so that they are in harmony with historic Norhill. One of their objectives is to prepare a Planning Guidelines Manual with the help of the Houston Archeological & Historic Commission.

It's going to be a fun year. I hope you'll join us.

—Tom Patton

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## Member appreciation dinner March 25

Our annual member appreciation dinner will be held March 25th at the Proctor Park Community Center beginning at 6:30 p.m. All NNA members are urged to join us for free barbeque provided by a leading Heights area caterer, plus potato salad, cole slaw, beans and all the rest.

If you're not currently a member, all you have to do is pay your annual dues at the door. The regular homeowner rate is \$35. Seniors 65 and over pay only \$10, and renters can also join at the \$10 rate. We accept business members at \$50 per year.

Our goal this year is to reach 300 members (out of 840 total Norhill lots). Last year we doubled our membership, going from 100 to 200 members by year-end.

Membership V.P. Chris Lang hopes to ride this new wave of enthusiasm to reach the magic 300 mark. If you know someone who has yet to join, please encourage them to do it before March 25. It's possible to use your Visa or MasterCard and join online at [norhill.org/memberships](http://norhill.org/memberships).

We want everyone to come and enjoy the camaraderie and good food. The more people who support the programs and activities of Norhill Neighborhood Association, the more we can accomplish to improve the quality of living for all Norhill residents.

## Holiday party a huge success



The Norhill holiday party at Heights Villa on December 6 was enjoyed by more than 130 Norhillians and friends. We hope to make this a regular event to kick off the holiday season. Special thanks to event organizers Kathy Cameron and Linda Vasse for all their hard work, and to all

our sponsors who graciously donated so many door prizes and tasty treats. This includes Brendan and Cathy Gowing, owners of Heights Villa, who donated the use of their fabulous ballroom and helped underwrite other party expenses. It was indeed a night to remember.

## Sign landscapers step up

Eight hearty Norhill residents volunteered some muscle and several hours of their time on December 14th to landscape the ground beneath our new historic district signs to protect them from damage by City mowing crews. Metal edging, weed barrier underlayment and ornamental rock was installed in less than four hours.

We really appreciate their willingness to help make Norhill more beautiful, and to allow us to point with pride at these fabulous new signs marking our historic neighborhood.

Shown from left: Adam Oblath, Emily Stone, Mark Adam, Tom Patton, Patrick Vocke, Mike Anderson and John Wood. Bob Lamons was the Ace photographer.



## Nobody knows Norhill better



**Mary Wassef**  
Broker, ABR, CLHMS  
Five Star Texas  
Real Estate Agent

*Norhill resident  
since 1999*



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# NORHILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

## 2014 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

**President**

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Membership**

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**Second Vice President,  
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Rebekah Mayfield  
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**Crime Watch Officer**

Patti Woods  
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**Communications Director**

Bob Lamons  
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**Programs Director**

Viula Torgerson  
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**Social Events Director**

Dave Hamilton  
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**Community Projects  
Director**

Mike Clennan  
713-864-1204

**Director-at-large**

Daryl Sinkule  
832-465-1051

**Director-at-large**

Pedro Ayarzagoitia  
281-808-8748

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **January 28** NNA Monthly Meeting – Barry Ward, Trees For Houston  
Sign up for tree planting program
- **February 7** First Friday Happy Hour  
Dave Hamilton and Ellen Berta, 4602 Oak Ridge
- **February 8** Trees delivered for pick up at Christ The King Church
- **February 9** Norhill Cycling Club monthly ride
- **February 15** Optional tree planting services provided
- **February 21** Norhill Diner's Club
- **February 25** NNA Monthly Meeting – Lynn Edmondson, Historic Houston
- **March 7** First Friday Happy Hour – Location TDB



Norhill News  
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[facebook.com/norhill.org](https://www.facebook.com/norhill.org)

## NORHILL YARD OF THE MONTH

Submitted by Linda Marx (713-503-0424)

We are pleased to recognize these Norhill Yard of the Month recipients. Thanks for helping keep Norhill beautiful!



**December:** Mike and Pam Reilana, 801 W. Cottage



**January:** Brian and Courtney Gamble, 727 W. Key