

NORHILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

2016 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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Second Vice-President, Deed Restrictions, Tom Patton
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Programs Director, Martin Koenig
Social Events Director, Amanda Reynolds
Community Projects Director, Val Paget
Director-at-Large, Jorgen Jorgensen
Director-at-Large, Daryl Sinkule

Please send all communication to info@norhill.org.
If your message relates to any of the members mentioned above, please include their name in the Subject Line.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **May 31** NNA Monthly Meeting: 6.30 p.m.
Proctor Plaza Community Center
Hurricane Preparedness – by Mardie Menke, CERT coordinator for the Harris County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management office
- **June 3** Happy Hour: Diane Oswald, 1102 Fugate St
- **July 1** Happy Hour: Open – we need a volunteer to host
- **July 15** Norhill Dining Group – contact Louise Denly for information 832-967-9927
- **August 5** Happy Hour: Amanda Reynolds, 1001 W Cottage St
- **Sept 2** Happy Hour: Host details to be advised
- **Sept 16** Norhill Dining Group – contact Louise Denly for information 832-967-9927
- **October 7** Happy Hour: Patti Woods, 727 W Temple



Norhill News
P.O. Box 30021
Houston, Texas 77249

Monthly First Friday Happy Hours

NNA hosts a "First Friday" Happy Hour at various neighborhood homes. Residents are invited to bring a beverage and/or snack to enjoy while visiting with their neighbors. Contact Social Events Director, Amanda Reynolds, info@norhill.org

Visit us at www.norhill.org

 facebook.com/norhill.org

NORHILL YARD OF THE MONTH

Submitted by Linda Marx
713-503-0424



MARCH

Thanks to our neighbors who help keep Norhill beautiful and in bloom across all seasons.

MARCH: 912 Pizer: Sandy Eidson's azaleas are in full bloom. Her back yard looks even better!

APRIL: 928 Fugate: Wendy Adair's pretty yard is full of color.

MAY: 916 Key: Henry and Sarah Terrell's cottage garden is stylish and bright.



APRIL



MAY

NORHILL NEWS

NEWS FROM NORHILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

APRIL/JUNE 2016 VOL. 27, NO. 2

Harris County Appraisal District Helps Neighbors Understand Property Tax Appraisals

Property taxes support critical services such as schools, police and fire protection, street maintenance and more. Chief Appraiser Designate with Harris County Appraisal District (HCAD), Roland Altinger, was our guest speaker at April's monthly meeting, which was well attended by neighbors.

Altinger provided insight into the property appraisal process, how it is calculated and what options property owners have to protest.

He also talked about the challenges of appraising property in Harris County. The district's area covers 1,700 square miles, includes almost two million parcels of land, and is home to more than four million people. With a local economy that totals approximately one-fifth of the entire state's property value, uncertainty caused by the drop in oil prices and the resulting slowing economy and real estate market, Harris County has a complex task on its hands.

"Better communication between property owners and the appraisal district, helps HCAD to do a better job," said Altinger.

At its board of directors meeting Wednesday March 16, 2016, HCAD announced it was raising home values by over 7% for existing homes. However, the Houston Realtor's analysis shows the average home price increased only 1% during the 12-month period ending January 2016. If you think HCAD's market value appraisal of your home is inaccurate, you should file a protest with the Appraisal Review Board of Harris County. The protest deadline is Tuesday May 31, 2016. Go to www.hcad.org for information.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Hear from our Norhill President
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FIRST QUARTER SALES ACTIVITY in North Norhill and East Norhill

SOLDS:

(from 1/1/16 through 3/31/16)

Number of Homes Sold: 18
 Average Price per square foot:\$316
 Lowest Price per square foot:\$216
 Highest Price per square foot: \$404
 Home square footage range: . . . 912sf - 2,463sf
 Average Number of Days on Market: 67



Information collected from MLS www.har.com Home square footage is approximate

CURRENTLY ACTIVE:

(as of 4/26/16)

Number of Homes Active on Market: 13
 Price Range \$299,900 to \$605,000
 Lowest Price per square foot: \$222
 Highest Price per square foot: \$479
 Average Asking Price per square foot: \$332
 Average Number of Days on Market: 68

CURRENTLY PENDING:

(as of 4/26/16)

Number of Homes Contracts Pending: 11
 Price Range \$290,000 to \$643,500
 Average Asking Price per square foot: \$351
 Average Number of Days on Market: 42

For any additional information, contact:



Cindy Burns

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President's Message

The first five months of this year were busy for Norhill, and we have many activities still to look forward to.

Recently, the neighborhood association has focused its efforts on ensuring Norhill is prepared for any type of emergency. A Community

Emergency Response Team is being formed to help facilitate the distribution of supplies and assistance, alongside first responders, following severe weather or damaging storms.

Partnering with FEMA, Norhill's civic club at Proctor Plaza Park will become a distribution center for emergency supplies in the event of a hurricane. Block Captains will play a central role in assessing property damage on their streets and coordinating help from people with the right equipment, such as chain saws, until assistance arrives from first responders. If you would like more information, please plan to attend the

members meeting on May 31 when our guest speaker from the Harris County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness will discuss ways in which Norhill can prepare for emergency situations.

We continue to make strides with the City of Houston about our Design guidelines. Norhill was selected as one of three neighborhoods to receive guidelines this year. There will be several neighborhood workshops throughout 2016 with the Planning Department, and we will update members via the newsletter, emails, Facebook and the NextDoor Norhill online collaboration site. If you have not signed up for our email announcements or joined as a member, we welcome you to do so at your earliest convenience.

In October, we are planning to host the 2016 Norhill Home Tour. The last two events were very successful, and we look forward to hearing from neighbors who are interested in opening their homes to the tour this year. Please email us at info@norhill.org for more information on participating.

—Lawrence Febo

HEIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS

Events & Activities around Norhill

First Saturday Arts Market – A Monthly Outdoor Fine Arts Event in the Heart of the Heights

Open September – May, 11 a.m.–6 p.m. and summer evenings.

Details: www.FirstSaturdayArtsMarket.com

Butterfly Gardening Kids Workshop – Saturday, June 4, 10–11 a.m. – Bring the kids to this informative summer workshop.

Learn about the life-cycle of the butterfly, look at actual chrysalises, and see what plants you need to create a butterfly habitat. Class is limited to 30 students. Open to children 4 and up with an accompanying adult. RSVP at <http://buchanansplants.com/events/>

Sunday Streets – Celebrating the streets of Houston by opening them for walking, biking, dancing, and other physical activity.

Sunday Streets has become a new Houston tradition. Six times per year, a portion of a great Houston street will be closed to motorized traffic from 12–4 p.m. during one Sunday each month. With no cars on the road, you'll be able to enjoy these streets for walking, running, dancing, or riding with friends and family. Please help spread the word and visit www.gohealthyhouston.org/sundaystreetshtx for more info. info.sundaystreets@houstontx.gov

The Market at Sawyer Yards debuted Saturday May 14, and continues 2nd Saturdays through August. Beginning September, the market will take place every Saturday. This curated market will host a mix of artist mediums with a focus on folk art, maker is the seller and artisan crafts including packaged specialty foods. Details: <http://sawyerstreetmarket.com/>



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In The News

Know Where to Go to Recycle Glass

In late March, the City of Houston announced a ban on glass in green bins affecting curbside recycling, due to a renegotiated contract between the City and Waste Management. Mayor Sylvester Turner agreed that the new contract wasn't ideal, "but in order to keep recycling moving, with the exception of the glass being picked up at the curbside, this

is the best deal that was available..." He said the city will use the next two years to find a solution to include glass again. In the meantime, the closest recycling center for Norhill residents that accepts glass, at no charge is:



**North Main Neighborhood
Depository/Recycling Center**
9003 N Main, Houston, TX 77022

Hours: Wednesday – Sunday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. (as of March 13)
www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste/depositories.html

Norhill Emergency Preparedness Block Captains We Need You Block Captains, and neighbors who are interested in becoming Block Captains, are invited to join Mike Clennan, Vice President and Val Paget, Community Projects Director, to create action plans for future neighborhood emergencies. Please bring your ideas for discussion. Val will provide emergency preparedness materials for all residents on your block.

When: Thursday, June 2 at 6.30 p.m.

Where: 1108 Fugate Street, hosted by Val Paget.

Refreshments provided. RSVP to Val at vpaget@gmail.com

Are you Hurricane-Ready?

An involved community is a well prepared community: Please attend the upcoming NNA Monthly Meeting Tuesday May 31, to hear Mardie Menke, CERT coordinator from the Harris County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, discuss Hurricane Preparedness and how Norhill residents can plan. This event will give you the tools and resources to protect yourself, your family and property. Learn the four basic components to being prepared: get a kit, make a plan, stay informed, and get involved. For timely and accurate community information when emergency conditions exist in Houston, go to: www.hcohsem.org

Sweet BBQ Goodness for 80

What do Mark's BBQ and Proctor Plaza Park Community Center have in common? 80 Norhill neighbors enjoying



a delicious barbecue meal! The Norhill Annual Member's Appreciation Dinner was a great hit in March, with NNA Board members on hand to serve current members and their families. Hosted by the association and held in place of the monthly General Meeting, the event was open to neighbors who are current members, those wishing to renew, and those wanting to join. Pam Foote, Manager of Proctor Plaza Community Center for the City of Houston, joined the dinner and kindly provided dessert for all.



Nobody knows Norhill better



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

*Norhill resident
since 1999*



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