



JANUARY • FEBRUARY 2013

MOCKINGBIRD TO ROSS / GREENVILLE TO SKILLMAN

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Darren Dattalo | CRIME WATCH  
214-476-8023

## DIRECTORS

Stacey Davis 214-501-8788

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## USEFUL NUMBERS

Council Member Angela Hunt  
214-670-5415

State Rep. Dan Branch  
214-745-5768

DPD Officer Keith Allen  
214-671-3477

Sanitation / Bulk Trash  
214-670-3555

Code Compliance  
214-670-5708

Animal Services Call 311

## JANUARY MEETING WATCHING OUT FOR CRIME IN 2013

Happy New Year! One thing worth celebrating this year is the ongoing reduction in crime in our neighborhood. Crime Watch Coordinator Darren Dattalo tells us that again this year it looks like we have double digit reductions in the areas that residents care about the most – home break-ins and car break-ins.

Now is the right time to get a head start on maintaining the trend and protecting our homes. **Put Thursday January 31 on your calendar.**

The next Lower Greenville Neighborhood Association meeting at Greenland Hills United Methodist Church will be a look at our neighborhood crime watch. Darren Dattalo will be giving us an update on crime numbers, a close look at trends, and suggestions on how you can protect yourself. We'll also have representatives from the Dallas Police Department who will answer questions and talk about their activities in the community.

You'll have an opportunity to learn more about the Expanded Neighborhood Patrol. Its purpose is to raise police presence, reduce crime, improve communication, and educate residents. Learn how to take advantage of this inexpensive service that employs off-duty police officers to patrol our neighborhood and give extra protection to your home when you're out of town.



Our good friends at My Fit Foods, Mockingbird at Greenville, will be providing samples of their tasty and healthy menu choices.

Be sure to join us – Thursday,  
January 31, 7:00 pm at  
Greenland Hills UMC, Penrose  
and Delmar.

## NEXT MEETING

**WHEN** Thursday January 31,  
7:00 pm

**WHERE** Greenland Hills UMC  
Penrose and Delmar

**TOPIC** Crime Watch / ENP

## COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER

On Tuesday, November 20, LGNA residents joined area churches and neighborhood associations to celebrate Thanksgiving. The community dinner at Skillman Church of Christ was attended by approximately 200 folks who brought potluck offerings of vegetables, desserts, salads, and breads. The churches and neighborhood associations supplied turkeys, hams, drinks, and supplies. Neighbors also brought generous donations of canned food for the North Texas Food Bank.



## BULK TRASH DATE

**PICK UP:** Jan 14-18  
**EARLIEST SET-OUT:** Jan 10

**PICK UP:** Feb 11-15  
**EARLIEST SET-OUT:** Feb 7

**PICK UP:** JMar 11-15  
**EARLIEST SET-OUT:** Mar 7

**Remember:** The city has a zero tolerance for placing trash out prior to the earliest set-out date. Don't get stuck with a fine for missing the date.



**LOG ON TO  
WWW.LGNA.NET**  
for information  
and updates.

# KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS

## BILL HALL



It's a long way from Bill Hall's early years growing up in Asheville, NC to today as Chief Executive Officer for Dallas Area Habitat for Humanity. He earned a Bachelor's degree in Building Construction from the University of Florida and an MBA from the University of North Carolina.

In 1999 a job opportunity brought Bill to Dallas where he met his wife, Kelli, who grew up in the East Dallas area and attended Woodrow Wilson HS. Living in the area was important to them because they wanted their children to also attend Woodrow. He resides on Belmont with his wife and daughters, Grace and Natali. Bill enjoys watching college football and spending time with his family.

Bill's passion for Habitat came from his initial days of being a Habitat volunteer before he joined the staff in 2004. As CEO, he is responsible for the executive leadership of the organization and enjoys the variety of his job opportunities including construction, family services, neighborhood involvement, the Habitat ReStore retail outlet, and raising money. He envisions Habitat's having an even greater impact on neighborhoods through more comprehensive projects and collaboration with for-profit and non-profit organizations to bring the dream of home ownership to more families.

As a former Habitat volunteer, Bill encourages others to get involved by volunteering at a home build site, working in the pre-build wall shop, assisting in the retail store, working with families or helping in the office. Neighbors can also be involved financially or by donating usable items such as appliances, cabinets, and furniture to the Habitat ReStore retail outlet, which Habitat will pick up. Bill adds, "That's what I love about Habitat. There are a thousand ways to be involved. That's what's amazing about this organization."

To support Dallas Area Habitat for Humanity contact:  
[volunteer@dallas-habitat.org](mailto:volunteer@dallas-habitat.org) or [donations@dallas-habitat.org](mailto:donations@dallas-habitat.org)



## CITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Elections for City Council are scheduled to take place on **Saturday, May 11**. Dallas is divided into 14 districts, each district represented by a City Councilmember. Councilmembers are elected for a period of two years with a limit of four consecutive terms or eight years.

The LGNA area has been ably represented for eight years by District 14 Councilmember Angela Hunt. Ms Hunt has consistently worked with neighborhood associations, crime watches, and other citizen groups to maintain and improve conditions for our residents. Under the City's term limits, she will be stepping down in 2013, having served four consecutive terms.

The horseshoe-shaped District 14 wraps from Lower Greenville and the M Streets to the Arts District, downtown, and parts of Love Field. Mirroring the shape and adjacent to the south of District 14 is District 2 which has been represented by Pauline Medrano for eight years. She has often worked in tandem with Councilmember Hunt to improve our neighborhoods. Ms Medrano is also term limited and will be stepping down.

In a repeat of 2011's successful "Meet the Candidates" forum sponsored by nine area neighborhood associations, LGNA is co-sponsoring a Town Hall with District 2 and District 14 candidates. The event is scheduled for late March or early April, and several candidates from Districts 2 and 14 have already expressed an interest in participating.

One candidate for Angela Hunt's replacement is longtime LGNA board member Philip Kingston. Philip has been actively involved in LGNA activities and interaction with the City; however, he's resigned his LGNA post in order to devote time to his campaign.

Our thanks to Philip Kingston  
for his services to LGNA and our neighborhood.



4th grader  
Miranda Lopez  
and Coach  
Mario Ramirez  
with the  
team trophy



Robert E. Lee Lady Cougars Soccer Team

## LEE GIRLS SOCCER SUCCESS

The Robert E. Lee Elementary School "Lady Cougars" soccer team triumphed over William Lipscomb Elementary on Thursday, December 13 at Samuel Grand Park to win the Northeast Girls Division Championship. The first time these two schools played against each other, the game ended in a 1-1 tie, and the Lady Cougars went undefeated the rest of the season. What a great match-up for the Championship!

Led by Coach Mario Ramirez and Coach Brad Willingham, this was the first year for the 3rd through 5th grade girls to play as a team. They played hard and developed great leadership, discipline, and a wonderful bond. They are looking forward to next season to defend their title. Congratulations Lady Cougars on your Victory!

# TOYS FOR COPS



LGNA Board member Gay Hopkins, DPD Major Gary Tittle (center), and Central Patrol officers

Dallas Police officers regularly assist local citizens in various capacities, and there is no more special time than when officers help children in need. DPD officers keep soft stuffed toys in their vehicle trunks. Those comforting toys are given to distressed children that police officers encounter in the field.

To help out DPD's compassionate efforts, the Lower Greenville Neighborhood Association conducted a Toys for Cops drive. On December 22, area residents donated stuffed toys for the Central Patrol Division. Lots of cuddly bears, monkeys, dogs, kittens, and green frogs were among the 225+ toys delivered to Central Patrol on December 28. Major Gary Tittle and several officers were on hand to accept the generous donations from our LGNA neighbors.

Major Tittle explained that these 225 stuffed toys are about a six-month supply. LGNA has promised to conduct a mid-year collection drive. Don't discard your gently used stuffed toys. We'll be collecting again in July.

# DIG THIS!

notes from a neighborhood gardener

## GARDENING TIPS FROM SARA.

January gardening and yard suggestions from neighborhood gardener Sara Wick.

- Remember that hydrangea blooms on last year's wood, so do NOT trim to the ground.

- Be careful not to catch snowflakes on your tongue until all birds have flown South for the winter.

- Put out finch feeders now with thistle (nyjer) seed. Keep the seed fresh, and you will enjoy feeding these colorful birds until spring.

You can email your questions to Sara at [DigThis@LGNA.net](mailto:DigThis@LGNA.net)



sara wick

# FIRE STATION BASKETS

The holidays are a special time for caring and giving to others. The firefighters who serve at Station 17 make it their job to care about our neighborhood 365 days a year.

LGNA-area neighbors had the opportunity to say "thank you" to our first responders by donating goodies for our Station 17 holiday gift baskets. The response from neighbors was amazing! Cookies, pies, fruit, packaged gift goodies, chips and dips, games, gift cards, and more were among the items donated.

On December 22, some of our youngest LGNA neighbors, the three children of Marshall and Amy May – Abby, Howard, and Harry – put caring into action by helping organize, fill, and deliver six baskets to the fire station. Of course, Mom, Dad, and grandparents pitched in and were a big help. The firefighters on duty accepted the baskets on behalf of the three shifts at the station. The station sees three shifts of approximately eight firefighters each, so they were happy to partake of the donations.

A huge LGNA thank you goes to all who reached out with generous hands and hearts to help show appreciation to those in our community who make a difference in our lives each and every day of the year.



Neighborhood residents Abby, Howard, and Harry May deliver holiday baskets to Station 17 DFR.





# CRIME WATCH UPDATE

## Keep Your Eyes Open

DARREN DATTALO, CRIME WATCH COORDINATOR

this one, and a suspect was arrested.

In another incident, a driveway robbery occurred on Lewis Street in November. Two males robbed a man at gunpoint at around 7:45pm as he was going to his car. A female companion saw the men approaching and quickly went into the house, thinking they looked suspicious. She was right. No one was hurt, but this is a good lesson in trusting your instincts and avoiding dangerous situations.

Although the number of car break-ins is down right now, be aware that we have some tire/wheel thefts in the area. This follows a short

series of third-row SUV seats being stolen. While these are likely different sets of thieves, they probably come back because of the high number of vehicles parked in the street. Remove valuables from sight and lock up!

If you aren't already on our email list for regular monthly reports and as-needed crime alerts, please email us at [CrimeWatch@LGNA.net](mailto:CrimeWatch@LGNA.net) and ask to be added.

	Residential Incidents	Car Break-ins	Other Res. Thefts & Break-ins	Violent Crime*	Auto Theft
Oct 2012	21	8	6	0	4
Nov 2012	16	8	2	2	3
<b>Typical</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>

\*Violent crime includes murder, rape, robbery or aggravated assault.



## THIEVES ON THE PROWL FOR HOLIDAY GIFTS

KEITH ALLEN—DALLAS POLICE

Thieves celebrate their Christmas gifting in the weeks following December 25. They can spot your presents without ever stepping foot in your house, especially when your trash sits on the curb. Here is some advice for disposing of wrapping paper or boxes for TVs, electronic games, expensive jewelry or bikes.

It's best to tear up the boxes in the house. If you have garbage bags, stuff the pieces inside or tear up the pieces and put them inside your recycling bin. A few extra minutes with a box cutter is time well spent. If at no other time of the year, please observe the bulk trash rules for January 2013 and don't put out the bulk items early.

This time of year thieves reap the added benefit of knowing which iPad, TV, or tool will bring them the greatest reward since your trash can serves as very effective advertising. If you plan on using the winter months to get organized, clean out the garage, etc., plan a stop at one of the many recycling facilities before your bulk trash week. While especially true during the holiday season, remember to practice safe trash disposal also when you're

celebrating birthdays, graduations, anniversaries, etc.

On a related topic, please do not post to social media when you are away from home. Burglars leverage social media and may go shopping at your home.

Several LGNA residents have told me that because crime trends are improving, they didn't see the need to take the precautions that Darren and I recommend. Please keep in mind that the crime stats may not reflect true numbers because many victims don't take the time to file a police report or are too embarrassed to call 911. Also remember that if you don't take precautions, the bad guys will take advantage of the easier pickings.

The insurance companies compile statistics as well, and those numbers have been increasing. Sadly most victims are surprised that without specified replacement coverage, there is little hope of replacing the new laptop and the new TV and the new tablet.

I hope the New Year is prosperous and peaceful for each of you. Take care.

## SHOW YOUR SUPPORT AND JOIN NOW!

name: \_\_\_\_\_

address: \_\_\_\_\_

phone: \_\_\_\_\_

cell: \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_



Please choose all that apply:

- ☐ Join LGNA (\$10/yr, \$5 for 65+)
- ☐ Join Expanded Neighborhood Patrol (\$200/yr, \$150 for 65+)
- ☐ Add me to the Crime Watch Email List
- ☐ Please contact me about Volunteering

Please print clearly! Email addresses are required to receive neighborhood alerts. Personal information is not shared with any outside group or used for any other purpose. Receipts will be furnished upon request. Checks for LGNA membership should be made out to LGNA. For Extended Neighborhood Patrol membership, checks should be made out to LGNA-ENP. Please provide separate checks if possible.

**Mail this form and check payable to LGNA or LGNA-ENP to: PO Box 720067, Dallas, TX 75372 (or bring it to the next LGNA meeting).**

**Pay Pal Now Available:** LGNA has made it a little easier for you to become a member. We've added PayPal to the LGNA website. On the site, you'll see two buttons, one for regular membership and one for seniors (65+). If you have a PayPal account, you can use that directly. If not, you can skip that step and proceed directly to a credit card processing page. LGNA does not receive your credit card information, only the contact information. There is no surcharge added to the regular \$10 per household membership (\$5 for seniors).

