



Highlands North Plano

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Highlands North Plano Homeowners Association

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Events Around Plano:

- Olympics Feb 9-25
- National Margarita Day Feb 22
- Dallas Blooms at Dallas Arboretum - Feb 24-April 8
- North Dallas Irish Festival Mar 2-4
- Dallas Texas and Home Garden Show - Mar 2-4
- Dallas St. Patrick's Day Parade-Mar 17
- Dallas Arboretum Food and Wine Festival March 22
- Passover March 30—April 7
- Easter April 1
- McKinney 2018 Arts in Bloom- April 13

Spring Fling Save the date

Spring is in the air! Join us as we celebrate Earth Day and great neighbors on **Saturday, April 21st from 10am to 12pm.** The festivities will be held in the **cul-de-sac on Desert Garden (on the south end of the neighborhood).** We will be serving light refreshments. We will have a composting demo by a master composter and a seed planting activity to commemorate Earth Day plus fun activities for the kids. Look for flyers and check the website for more information as the day approaches. We will also post on nextdoor.com. Hope to see you there.



Hot Chocolate and Sweets Social

The HOA has secured the use of the City of Plano Pop-up Trailer on **Saturday, February 24rd from 10am to 12 pm at 4105 Cassandra Lane.** The city is providing free use of the trailer, tables and chairs as well as free hot chocolate and cups. A special thanks to Dunkin Donuts at Coit and Park for providing the donuts. This is a great activity for community building, so come by, meet your neighbors, nosh on donuts and hot chocolate and shake the winter blues away. Cody Butzke will be on hand to promote a spring/summer soccer event. Keep checking nextdoor.com for more info.



Don't forget to vote on March 6th in the primary elections. Early voting starts on February 20th and continues thru March 2nd.



Highlands North Home Owners Association Directory

The HOA leadership is in the process of compiling a directory of residents in our neighborhood. The purpose of this would be to secure a resident count and contact information in case of an emergency like a fire or observed criminal activity. The leadership would also have access to the resident's contact information for communications and a sense of community. This information will not be shared with any potential or future sponsoring companies. A directory creates an historical document for the HOA leadership in years to come. We are in the planning stages right now and gathering information. There are plans in the future to have the directory online for easier access for dues paying members (\$50/year). It is possible there may even be a paper copy for those without computer or internet access. To participate or for more info, contact:

www.vicepresident@highlandsnorth.org

Bike Sharing Has Come to Plano

Whether you like it or hate it, Plano is committed to the bike sharing evolution. The city wants to promote a "first mile, last mile" paradigm in which one rides a bicycle to the DART station, downtown, or school or where ever.



For a dollar an hour you can get from point A to B. To accomplish this, the city is going with dockless bicycles which means you can leave your bike at your destination. Plano is a city that heavily relies on our cars for transportation. If the city can get more people riding bicycles, the community benefits in so many ways - from less traffic on the roads, to less pollution and a healthier lifestyle for the residents. In response to the potential for visible clutter that Dallas has been encountering, the city is developing an ordinance which will limit the number of bicycles that can be left in one location. The city wants to promote a business friendly free market so Plano does not want to over regulate these companies. In November, Lime Bikes launched a pilot program in which it dropped off 100 bikes in downtown Plano. Currently there are three bike share companies in Plano: Lime Bikes, OFO and V Bikes. Download a company app, and the GPS tells you where the closet bike is. The app will also assist you if you wish to complain about an excess of bicycles in one location. You can also use Fix it Plano to complain but it is faster to contact the vender.

Holiday Lights

The community did an outstanding job of decorating the neighborhood during the holidays. Congratulations to the winners of our annual lights contest and be sure to view the other holiday pictures posted on the website and follow the hotlink to 2017 Holiday Lights.



Best Overall — 4125 Eldorado



Most Whimsical—1700 Ulster



Best Religious Theme—4113 Prospect

Yard of the Month

The Highlands North Plano HOA Beautification Committee will resume the Yard of the Month awards in the spring and continue through the fall. Two winners are chosen each month (one on the north and one on the south sides of Eldorado Parkway). Winning yards best exemplify the qualities of uniqueness, beauty, and a pleasing curbside appeal. The winner of the Yard of the Month will be provided with a decorative and "highly coveted" yard sign for display indicating their winning yard, as well as a posting and photo on our community website for bragging rights. For examples of previous winners, see the Yard of the Month hotlink on this website.



Sustainability and Environmental Education Classes

Those of you who attended our annual HOA meeting last fall were so impressed with our presenter, Erin Hoffer, the environmental education coordinator for the City of Plano. Did you know that there are a plethora of **free** classes offered at Environmental Education Center at 4116 W. Plano Parkway just down the street from our development? And Erin teaches some of these classes! It is understandable that not everyone would be interested in some of these classes, but the facility offers a class on garbage and its disposal, success with seeds, shade gardening, composting, rain barrels, fixing leaks, efficient landscape designs, fixing sprinklers, DIY drip irrigation, and a composting fair on March 3rd. There is also a Plano Community Garden - a cooperative partnership between the City of Plano's Environmental Education & Outreach Division, Junior League of Collin County, and the Plano Community Gardeners. The garden's 50 raised beds provide over 5,000 lbs. of fresh produce annually to community food pantries and presents hands-on educational opportunities for local schools, children's organizations, and organic gardeners. For more information or to sign up for a class go to: <https://www.plano.gov/212/>

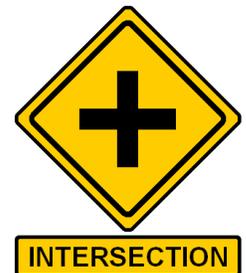


Plano Senior Recreation Center Temporary Closing

Due to safety concerns during the expansion of the facility, the Plano Recreation Center will be closed on March 1st until the project is complete. Many of the classes and daily drop-in activities at the Senior Recreation Center had already been relocated or significantly scaled back with the start of the construction in January. Any remaining classes scheduled in the coming months are relocating to other recreation centers where possible. Registrants will be notified. Full refunds will be issued where space is not available. Daily drop-in activities are being scheduled at other recreation centers, and participants will be notified when the locations for these activities are confirmed. In addition, the annual Wellness Fair will be held on May 21 at the Plano Event Center (2000 E. Spring Creek Pkwy.).

Plano Parkway Intersection Overhaul

Construction on the longstanding plan to overhaul the complicated intersection of Plano Parkway and Preston Road began in December and is expected to take more than a year to complete. The plan for the 5 million dollar project will be to alleviate the traffic backups at the intersection where cars often jam back through multiple lights during rush hour as drivers navigate the street north of George Bush. Lane closures will be required to complete the work, but the work has been sequenced to minimize rush hour lane closures. 90% of the funding for this project comes from federal and state sources with the remaining 10% funded by the city.



YOUR DUES ARE PAST DUE

Each October we collect annual Highlands North of Plano HOA dues so if you haven't paid yet, your dues are overdue. Your dues are critical to allow us to maintain our entrances which provides a pleasing first impression, to provide the website, newsletters, and sponsor community building activities. Our dues are quite modest compared to other HOA's - only \$50/year. To pay your dues, follow the "Pay your HOA dues" hotlink on this website. Complete the form and mail it along with your check to our HOA mailbox listed below or you may use the convenient PayPal method of payment, either way we still need the form completed.

HNHA Treasurer, 2701 W. 15th Street #302, Plano, TX 75075

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



For those who missed the great National Night Out gathering in October, fear not - the next NNO will be on **Tuesday, October 6, 2018**. This past event was the most successful yet with the presence of the dancing police officer, pizza, DJ Dave and the ice cream truck. There were activities for the children including the bounce house. We are in the planning stage right now, but we hope the next one will be even more successful. We will pass out flyers, post on nextdoor.com and place banners in the neighborhood to notify you as the day comes closer. Enjoy the pictures from our last NNO below.

