

# Communicator

## Neighborhood Association New Directions

Last year we did our best to alert the neighborhood to various meetings and events to assess how well our current meeting structure was working. We brought in featured speakers of various venues to speak about beautification, crime, new businesses around the neighborhood area, etc. And, last year we had several neighborhood events including a garage sale, document shredding and our Fall Festival. Our National Night Out was rained out last year but we hope it will be a pretty day this year.

The most attended Neighborhood activities last year, and in previous years, were the events. Meetings continue to be poorly attended. Our new slate of officers is planning to fine tune our schedule to be more in line with the current needs of this neighborhood. We will have fewer meetings and more events. We would love to have your input about this new direction and any suggestions you might have for future events. A couple of ideas offered thus far include yard parties and block parties. Think about what kind of event you would enjoy. You can send your ideas to or [president@mpum.com](mailto:president@mpum.com) or [info@mpum.com](mailto:info@mpum.com) or call Robert and Dottie Giesler at (214)349-7028.

## Scheduled MPUM Neighborhood Events

Thus far we have the following meeting and events on the schedule:

**National Night Out: October 5, 2010**

**Crime Watch Meeting: January 18, 2011**

**Fall Festival: November 9, 2010**

**Beautification/Election Meeting: May 10, 2011**

Other events without a scheduled date will include at least one garage sale, a shredding event in the spring and perhaps a Fourth of July parade.

## NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



**Date:** Tuesday, October 5, 2010

**Place:** Hotchkiss Elementary  
**School Playground & Basketball Court**

**Time:** 6:30 P.M. Until 9:00 P.M.

Join us to celebrate National Night Out. The purpose of this national event is to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness.

- Generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime programs
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships
- Send a message to criminals that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back

This event is fun for ALL ages. For the kids we will have a bounce house/slide and a reader to share a great story with them. For all we will have free hot dogs, cold drinks, snow cones, popcorn and much more!

We will be joined by members of the Dallas Police Officers and Dallas Fire & Rescue. Their vehicles will be available for kids to explore. We have also invited our Councilman, Sheffie Kadane and our ENP Officer Sr. Corp. Phil Gordon.

**Seniors!** There will be a representative from The Senior Source available and happy to help you with any questions.

Our Volunteers in Patrol (VIPs) will be on hand at the NNO celebration and also patrolling the neighborhood to keep our homes safe while we gather at the school. Mark your calendars so you will not forget! Let's have fun with the kids and offer thanks to law enforcement officers and firefighters for helping to keep our neighborhood safe!

## Friends of the Library

Many of you have attended Town Hall meetings and keep up with news from City Hall, so you know the city departments are facing severe budget cuts. Based on the latest proposed changes effective October 1, all library staffs will be significantly reduced, with several employees losing positions with the City and others transferred to different branches. It is expected that 5 employees at Skillman Southwestern Library will be let go. Additionally, drastic reductions are expected to the library materials budget.

Library advocacy is very important right now and you can help! Please contact the City Council members and let them know we need to keep our libraries well-funded. Pick up free "I Love My Dallas Library" buttons and bumper stickers from the Friends display at the Skillman Southwestern Library lobby, while supplies last. Sue Ramirez, a MPUM resident, is the Skillman Southwestern Library Friends President and can be reached at the following address if you have questions: [scramir@aol.com](mailto:scramir@aol.com) or call at (214-341-1861).

## Volunteers Needed

Our neighborhood could sure use some help from any of you that might have any time to devote! Every single position in our neighborhood is up for grabs at anytime if you have a special interest and time to devote to the position. We also have some initiatives we would love to have that currently do not have anyone making them happen. If you have interest in any of the following positions, please send an email to [president@mpum.com](mailto:president@mpum.com) or [info@mpum.com](mailto:info@mpum.com). If you do not have internet, then call 214-349-7028 or 214-348-7721. Volunteers needed:

- Social Chairman - Primary responsibility would be to make sure we have refreshments for each neighborhood meeting/event.
- Block Captain Coordinator and Asst. Coordinator – Surveys have shown lot of people who would agree to be a block captain.
- Welcome Committee for new residents
- VIP's – Volunteers In Patrol

NOW thru SEPTEMBER 23rd



## Merriman Park/University Manor History

In 1956 the Merriman Park portion of our neighborhood was developed and was in the Parade of Homes along with Sparkman Estates in Northwest Dallas, Bruton Terrace in Pleasant Grove, Richardson Heights in Richardson, and Glen Oaks in Oak Cliff. In 1959, the second addition of Merriman Park opened. 7018 Whitehill was featured as being THE first public showing of the Coleman natural gas motor system.

In April 1954, Dallas realtor, Harold G. Well, announced the opening of University Manor Addition located on Northwest Highway and Fenton Drive. By October of 1954, a house was ready to be shown as 7120 Fenton which is the first house on the east side of Fenton. It should be noted that the Dallas Central Appraisal District shows 1957 as the year built for this home.

- In September of 1956, plans were announced for a 20-acre shopping village to be located at Skillman at Abrams.
- Another little known fact is that as our neighborhood grew in phases. On the Dallas Central Appraisal District's books, the neighborhood noted for the homes in our neighborhood were listed as being in: Merriman Park, Merriman Park Addition, Merriman Park Replat, Merriman Park 2<sup>nd</sup> Inst. Addition, Merriman Manor, Merriman Manor Addition, University Manor, University Manor Addition, Merriman Park/Butler and Turton Addition. Now you know why we simply go by the name of Merriman Park/University Manor.
- In 1960 it was announced at an estimated cost of \$560,000, the L.L. Hotchkiss Elementary School will be built in Merriman Park and it would accommodate 900 students.
- In 1966, the 5<sup>th</sup> grade class at Hotchkiss School toured the home at 6225 Berryhill to view the resident's many colonial antiques.
- In 1963, the Duplexes on Walling were built and were offered at \$31,950 - \$39,950.
- In 1955, the first houses on Fenton were offered for \$17,500
- In 1957 the newly formed University Manor Garden club elected officers. Today they are still going strong.
- A Garden Club was formed by Merriman Park in 1960. Officers were elected and members planned a September dinner to honor their husbands. Eventually the Merriman Park Garden Club was disbanded.
- If you would like to add a little history you happen to know about our neighborhood, please send it to [info@mpum.com](mailto:info@mpum.com) so we can share the information. We know we have a few historians among us so we hope you will share fun facts you might have to share!

## Neighborhood Recycle Bins

Most of you know we have a neighborhood recycle bin located in the parking lot of the Town North Bible Church. Our neighborhood receives the proceeds from the recycle bin based on tonnage, and we give the church 25% for the use of the parking lot, so we encourage all of you to use the bin. One note though, **please do not** place anything outside of the recycle bin. The trucks have only a driver and are not manned to pick up anything outside the blue bin. Plus, items left out in view create an eyesore for the church members.

## City of Dallas Parking Enforcement

We continue to have the same problem as other neighborhoods, citations for parking the wrong way on a street. **IMPORTANT!!!** The citations are being issued by the Parking Enforcement Department, part of The City of Dallas Public Works Department. Many people think the Dallas Police Department is responsible for the tickets, **they are NOT**. Our police officers, as you would expect, have their hands full and cannot devote their time to these kinds of issues. Some of you believe it is Code Compliance responsible and they are **NOT**. And, it is **NOT** our ENP Officer. If you see the white car with yellow lights on top, that is Public Works Parking Enforcement in our neighborhood issuing tickets.

## Dallas "Off Leash" Dog Parks

The city is cracking down on pet owners who are allowing their dogs to be off leash except in the designated dog parks. We are fortunate to have a park near us at White Rock Lake, 8000 Mockingbird Lane and it is open from 5 a.m. to midnight year-round. It is closed for maintenance on the second and fourth Mondays. And the park is also closed in the event of inclement weather. For more information call the Dog Park Hotline 214-671-8001 or visit the website [www.whiterockdogpark.com](http://www.whiterockdogpark.com)

## Announcements



**Congratulations to Dr. Gene Ellsworth** who will celebrate his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on October 14th!

## Yard of the Month

September: 7008 Walling

August: 7417 Fenton

July: 7135 Walling

*(Visit our website at [www.mpum.com](http://www.mpum.com) for pictures)*

## News from Town North Bible Church

Exciting things are happening at TNBC! In addition to Sunday morning worship each week at 10:50 a.m. (childcare provided), we are hosting the following events and are inviting anyone interested to join us:

- **Community Cook-Out on Saturday, 9/26** – Come join us for hot dogs, games, a bounce house, and snow cones. Look for signs around the church for more details as the date approaches.
- **Bible Study Every Wednesday Evening @ 7 pm** – Bring your questions about God and enjoy a time of fellowship and reflection on Biblical truths.
- **Men's Breakfast Every First & Third Saturday Morning @ 8 am** - Enjoy a time of fellowship and great food. Men of all ages are welcome.
- **Come see what's new at TNBC and learn what we are all about.** TNBC is a place where you can come just as you are. We invite you to join us and learn about our church community. We hope to see you soon!

## Mom's Group

Join our growing MPUM Moms' Group and meet other parents in the neighborhood! Our planned monthly activities change from month to month so there's something for working and stay-at-home moms. Plus it's FREE! We have playgroups for babies and toddlers, family playgroups, Mom's Night Out, family holiday parties, neighborhood events, and much more. Interested? Visit our webpage at [www.mpum.com/moms](http://www.mpum.com/moms) or email [moms@mpum.com](mailto:moms@mpum.com) and we'll send you all the details, and add you to our contact list.

## Newsletter Advertising

If you want to advertise your business as a resident of MPUM, you may send your business card and \$10 per newsletter issue to MPUM, P.O. Box 820803, Dallas, TX 75382. Your business card will be printed in the next newsletter. Likewise, area merchants or businesses recommended by a resident may advertise in our newsletter as well. The merchant can provide a business card or other "ready-to-print" ads the size of a business card for \$15.00 per issue. Other sizes will include \$20 for ¼ a page, \$30 for ½ a page, \$25-\$30 for flyers. All ads will need to have the cost approval, based on the amount of work required by neighborhood volunteers. You can send your ad to [info@mpum.com](mailto:info@mpum.com) to ask for an estimate. All payments will be applied to the cost of the newsletter.

The deadlines for submitting a business card or ad for currently scheduled events will be: • October 22, 2010 before the Fall Festival; • December 31, 2010 before the Crime Watch meeting; • April 22, 2011 before the Beautification/Election meeting.

## Neighborhood Association Dues

Our Neighborhood Association is completely separate from the MPUM ENP program. You do not have to be a member of ENP to be a member of our Association. It is the Neighborhood Association that tends to things like keeping our entrances pretty, maintaining the sprinkler system at these entrances, maintaining signage to remind you of things like when to place your bulk trash on the curb or when there is a neighborhood meeting, our Communicator newsletter, website, email communication and other projects to enhance the quality of life in our community. All costs for these kinds of projects come from your annual \$15 dues.

If you have not paid your dues for the 2010/2011 year, now would be the perfect time. The new fiscal year began June 1, 2010. If you have any questions about whether or not you have paid, you may check the list on our website at [www.mpum.com](http://www.mpum.com). Scroll down, on the right side of the page look for the link under Annual Dues. Or, you may call Charley Ramirez, our Treasurer, and he will be glad to look it up for you. He can be reached by telephone at 214-341-1861 or by email at [treasurer@mpum.com](mailto:treasurer@mpum.com). Dues may be mailed to MPUM, P.O. Box 820803, Dallas, TX 75382-0803. **Or, for your convenience we have included a self-addressed envelope.**

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## Dallas Fire & Rescue Station #55

Several neighborhoods serviced by Dallas Fire & Rescue Station #55 toured the station when it became apparent they could use help to make their lives easier at the station. Generally, we learned the city is responsible for the structure of the fire station but all items, including TVs, fans, etc. come out of the firefighter's pockets. We have met with the Division Manager from the City of Dallas Equipment & Building Services and with the Dallas Fire Department's City Planner to determine what this station needs from the city. At the same time we have compiled a list of items residents may contribute that will not be provided by the city. If you would like to help, consider the following suggestions.

- Fans: Floor fans, tabletop fans
- Various small appliances for the kitchen such as: electric can opener, hand mixer, new blender, toaster, etc.
- Misc. kitchenware such as: set of knives, steak knives, stainless, chopping board, chopper, Tupperware, plastic tea glasses etc.
- Bed linens, blankets, pillows for the California Twin beds (California Twins are longer)
- Could use one more California Twin mattress
- Outdoor **GAS** BBQ Grill (not propane)
- Outdoor meat smoker.
- BBQ utensils
- Outdoor chairs, furniture. Could use a table with umbrella to increase amount of shade
- 2 exterior combination locks or lock boxes like real estate agents use
- Exterior paint – we provide the paint and the firefighters do the work. They need to paint exterior doors. If interested we need to inquire the type and color they want to use.
- Blinds – we have window measurements if anyone wishes to donate these items
- Carpet for the Chief's office – we provide carpet and firefighters install
- New brush aluminum light switch face plates
- Furniture: Couch, chairs for main living room, chairs for sleeping areas, chairs in exercise room
- TVs currently working but could use upgrading – would love a flat screen although that would be more of a luxury than a need
- Covered large Rubbermaid trash cans for the kitchen (at least 2) and one for back patio
- Ceiling tiles to be installed by the firefighters
- Wall-mounted reading lights for sleep area
- Radio/CD player for exercise room
- TV stands, shelves (free standing or wall mounted)
- Weight bench, dumbbells and other exercise equipment (these items can be used but need to be fully operational)

Note: We are looking for new items or like-new items only. If you think you might be able to help, or have any questions, send an email to [info@mpum.com](mailto:info@mpum.com) or call Dottie Giesler at 214-349-7028 to avoid duplication.

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## MPUM Crime Watch



Sometimes it gets confusing about whom to call with questions about criminal activity. Under the umbrella of Crime Watch are the VIP program and the ENP program. Responsibility for all three activities is just too much for one person so we have broken this responsibility into 3 distinct groups.

Our **Crime Watch Chairman** is Aaron Lee. Aaron is the one that sends out the weekly crime stats, including tips about safety. His emails go to the entire neighborhood email list which currently consists of 510 email addresses. We will continue to grow this list with the hopes of using it for quicker updates to the neighborhood. Aaron can be reached by sending an email to [crimewatch@mpum.com](mailto:crimewatch@mpum.com) or you can call him at 214-502-2464.

The **VIP Coordinator** is Donna Mason and the **VIP Asst. Coordinator** is Dottie Giesler. All activity about our Volunteers In Patrol (VIPs) will be shared with the total neighborhood. If you have questions about VIP activity or wish to become a VIP, contact Donna at [vip@mpum.com](mailto:vip@mpum.com) or call her at 214-348-7721. Or contact Dottie at [jazydott@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jazydott@sbcglobal.net) or call her at 214-349-7028.

The **ENP Coordinator** is also Donna Mason and the **ENP Asst. Coordinator** is Dottie Giesler. Crime information will be shared with the entire neighborhood because it helps all of us stay on our toes.

However, ENP members receive more detailed information from the ENP officer, using the members email list. Members may also request specific house checks, will receive more comprehensive crime stats and will have the cell phone number for Phil, our ENP Officer, along with other benefits. If you have any questions about the ENP program and/or want to join, contact Donna at [enp@mpum.com](mailto:enp@mpum.com) or call her at 214-348-7721. Or contact Dottie at [jazydott@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jazydott@sbcglobal.net) or call her at 214-349-7028. Since this is a paid service, we have a Committee established to address all aspects of the ENP Program. (**ENP Committee:** Aaron Lee, Bill Houghton, Robert & Dottie Giesler, Brenna Rivas, Donna Mason, Barbara Hansen, Rick Webber, and Stuart Johnston)

While this may seem complicated it really works quite well because Aaron, Donna, Dottie and Bill are in very close contact with each other on a regular basis. No one person gets too overwhelmed and we have a variety so if one of the leaders is unable to perform a duty, the others will swing into action. The next rung we would like to see on the Crime Watch ladder would be Block Captains. Hopefully this year we find someone willing to develop this program to optimize communication, especially for those without email.

## Volunteers in Patrol (VIP)



If you are interested in becoming a Volunteer in Patrol, please send an email to [vip@mpum.com](mailto:vip@mpum.com) or call 214-348-7721. The program is a valuable part of our neighborhood security efforts, as demonstrated by our VIP and ENP Officer working together to break up a burglary in progress. We know these two programs can produce amazing results. We need more Volunteers, so we would urge you to think about becoming a VIP Patroller. Training is conducted by The Dallas Police Department and only takes about 6 hours. As of January, our ENP Officer, Sr. Corp. Phil Gordon, will be taking over the VIP training. So we will be in a wonderful position to have a well-oiled team. ☺ The next class will be scheduled soon and you will be notified. If you have questions about the VIP training or training schedule, call Donna Mason at 214-348-7721 or send an email to [vip@mpum.com](mailto:vip@mpum.com).

## School is Back in Session – Moving Violations Will Be Ticketed by Dallas Police Department

We are experiencing increased traffic, both foot and vehicle, with school is back in session. One long overdue focus is slowing down traffic on our feeder streets. Included in this focus will be speeding, stop signs and School Zone speed limits. We have a lot of children in the neighborhood who live on the feeder streets and they cannot be allowed to play in front because of this problem. Residents, both with and without children, have been complaining about these issues for a very long time.

DPD's plan is to heavily monitor these concerns, especially on Larmanda and the other feeder streets. Monitoring will be conducted by the Dallas Police Department, not our ENP Officer, Phil. We do not want to take time from our entire neighborhood patrol by having Phil tied up with traffic issues. However, if Phil happens to observe traffic violations while patrolling, he must issue tickets as a sworn officer of The Dallas Police Department.

The focus of the DPD will be on outside traffic (non-residents), but everyone needs to realize the DPD Officers will issue tickets to non-residents and residents. Being a resident will not excuse breaking the law, so make sure you are observing all speed limits and especially make sure you observe **ALL** stop signs in our neighborhood. Most of all, watch those school zones – tickets for speeding or texting in those areas are quite expensive. Help us slow traffic for the safety of all residents, especially our children.

## SOLICITORS

Like all neighborhoods, we have had our share of door-to-door solicitors. Unfortunately, it has become harder to know when a solicitor at your door is reputable because their stories are so good. Generally, the city allows people to go door-to-door as long as they honor the City Code for Solicitation. The code tells what to do if you do not want solicitors to disturb you.

Your first line of defense is posting a No Soliciting sign or sticker at or on your front door, in plain sight. City Code forbids solicitors to ring doorbells or knock on doors when a No Soliciting sign is posted. If you would like a **FREE** No Solicitor sticker from our Association, donated by one of our residents, simply drop an email to [info@mpum.com](mailto:info@mpum.com) along with your

address and we will get one to you. If you do not have email, call 214-348-7721 to request one. If you would prefer to have a more attractive sign instead of a sticker, you can find those at places like Target, Office Supplies, Home Improvement Stores, Amazon.com and other similar stores.

We encourage everyone to post **this kind** of sign or sticker because the more No Soliciting homes we have, the less attractive our neighborhood will be for all solicitors.

City Code also dictates the hours when solicitors may approach any home, with or without a No Soliciting sign posted. They must not approach any door before 9:00 a.m. or after 30 minutes after sunset, Monday through Saturday. And soliciting is **not allowed at all** on Sundays and major holidays.

And finally, the last line of defense is on your shoulders. Make it a practice to never give money to anyone you do not personally know. A solicitor may ask for any amount of money, but it is up to you whether you choose to comply. If there is someone claiming to be collecting for a particular charity you would be well-advised to decline to donate. Instead, call the charity directly if you wish to donate. Again, do not give money to anyone you do not know.

There are three reasons why you would want to call **9-1-1**

1. **Call 9-1-1** if you have a No Soliciting sign displayed and a solicitor rings your bell or knocks on your door at any time.
2. **Call 9-1-1** if anyone approaches your door before 9:00 a.m. or after 30 minutes following sunset, Monday through Saturday. Also **Call 9-1-1** if anyone approaches your door on Sundays or major holidays.
3. **Call 9-1-1** if you observe anyone behaving suspiciously or inappropriately, at your door or anywhere else in the neighborhood.

## Lock, Take & Hide

Burglaries (BMV) and auto theft continue to be the highest crimes in the city. There is a good reason for this because this kind of crime happens very quickly and often in the dark of night.



Police officers find it very difficult to be precisely at the right place at precisely the minute someone enters a car. For that reason the best defense is from preventive action by citizens.

With the "Lock...Take...Hide..." program, you are encouraged to completely empty your vehicle whether at home, at the mall, at church or anywhere someone may be tempted to break in to your car. The brochure included with this newsletter will expand on the ways you can help. Please take a minute to review the brochure – it contains some great tips.

## Don't Advertise Your Valuables to Burglars

Our VIP Patrollers are reporting that some of you are leaving boxes used for such things as flat screen TVs, computers and other expensive and sought after valuables on your curb at bulk trash time. This is about the worst thing you can do because it is inviting trouble when people who are driving through the neighborhood see what you may have just purchased. If you have boxes like this, make sure you break them down and place in your blue recycle carts. If you don't want to break them down then take them over to our neighborhood church, Town North Bible Church, and toss them in our neighborhood recycle bin, located in their parking lot.

## Neighborhood Litter

The Dallas Police Department advises us the first line of defense against crime is presenting a well kept neighborhood because that communicates to criminals that this is an active neighborhood, and maybe not the easiest place to get away with criminal activity. Our neighborhood does such a great job keeping things neat and tidy with only a few exceptions. Some residences allow newspapers and flyers to collect, which signals to criminals the house may not be occupied. So make sure you pick up your own papers and flyers and if your neighbor is out of town or you have a vacant house near you, make sure you remove them from view. And, be sure to keep your alley clean and clear of brush and debris so VIP patrollers can do their jobs.



## EXPANDED NEIGHBORHOOD PATROL (ENP)



### New ENP Signs!

By now you may have seen the new neighborhood ENP signs posted throughout our neighborhood. These will serve as a further deterrent by alerting criminals we are monitored by armed patrol. Our friends at DART have also allowed us to utilize their fence to post our new signs. These signs were paid for by a very generous anonymous donor who is one of our residents. Donations like these allow us to optimize our security and we are so grateful we were able to secure these signs. We need to make the criminals think twice about choosing our neighborhood and these signs will help greatly! Many thanks to our donor!!

### ENP Works!

Those of you who have email already know of the burglary that was busted as a result of a joint effort by our VIP Stephen Arruda and our ENP Officer Sr. Corp. Phil Gordon, and an instant flood of DPD Officers. The burglars were captured, both had prior histories and each was charged with a second-degree felony. Our ENP Officer received a commendation for his part in making these arrests possible and our VIP Patroller, Stephen Arruda, was issued a letter of appreciation by the Chief of Police and the Deputy Chief of the Northeast Substation.

Considering our ENP program only started last June, we have seen amazing results.

In June, July and August we have cut our crime rate from 11 crimes to 5. And, one of the burglaries this year was stopped in progress resulting in two second-degree felony arrests. None of the burglaries in 2009 were solved. Plus, summertime is a time when we experience a lot of petty crimes such as breaking in/damaging cars, criminal mischief/vandalism and theft. But this year we have experienced very few crimes since starting the ENP Program. The presence of an official patrol car in the neighborhood can be credited for this drop in crime which is why we keep coming to you asking that you please join the program so we can expand it for even more coverage. We would like zero crimes.

ENP is more than just patrolling. Our ENP Officer is very busy stopping many activities that may have turned into a crime. Added to that are the house checks he does for members of ENP when they are away. He literally walks the property when he is on patrol. At present this service is only offered during the weekdays. When we have enough members to roll this service into the weekend as well, it will be a great service for members when they are away for a weekend. If you have not joined, please consider joining at this time because we really need your help. Remember, the more members we have, the more coverage and police presence we will have to make our neighborhood safe and secure.

If you have questions about ENP, call Donna Mason at 214-348-7721 or email her at [enp@mpum.com](mailto:enp@mpum.com).

### Proactively Fighting Crime

Here are some of the ENP Officer's activities from June through August. These activities in some cases resulted in stopping crimes in progress while other activities have been proactive to prevent crime from happening.

ENP Activity – June-August 2010	
House checks – number of residences monitored	40 (Represents 260+ checks)
Felony arrests	2 (Residential break-in)
Shoplifter fleeing into our neighborhood – arrested	1
*Suspicious Person	15
*Suspicious Person arrested on prior warrants	1
*Suspicious Vehicle	8
Burglary vacant building	1
Traffic stops – speeding & failure to stop at stop signs	17 (2 with no license)
Solicitor approaching No Soliciting Households	2
Bulk Trash Pilfering	3
Community Contacts	12
Alarm Call	2 false
<i>*Suspicious Person/Vehicle a result of residents' report to 9-1-1 and from observation by on duty ENP Officer.</i>	

## Community Comes Together to Fight Crime

The ENP Program has also helped pull our neighborhood together and make us keenly aware of our surroundings. Phil has told us how many times, when he does a house check, he walks back to his car and sees several neighbors on their front porches watching. He says the number and the quality of 9-1-1 calls from this neighborhood has also been extremely important in our effort to cut crime. When more than one person calls 9-1-1 at the same time, it escalates the importance to our Police Department for faster response. So while we credit ENPs and our VIPs for proactively stopping crimes, they are the first to give credit to our residents who are all watching and listening and, importantly, not being afraid to call 9-1-1. Just before press time for this newsletter, we had a burglary on Wakefield and it was from the efforts of neighbors that five juvenile and adult males were caught. Thanks Daniel, Brenna and Brad! And thanks to all of you for paying attention to your surroundings throughout the neighborhood and making those calls to 9-1-1 when something just does not seem right.

### Expanded Neighborhood Patrol (ENP) Member Cell Phone Protocol

**ENP MEMBERS: DON'T FORGET** - CALL 9-1-1 immediately – not the ENP Officer, Sr. Corp. Phil Gordon, for any criminal or suspicious activity. If our ENP Officer is in the area, he will hear the broadcast on the radio and will be on-hand ASAP. But if he is not on duty, you would be wasting precious time calling the ENP cell phone. So don't change a thing about how you respond to suspicious activity. Call 9-1-1

If you are an ENP Member, use the ENP cell phone for non-emergencies to speak to the ENP Officer or to leave a message. If he is not on duty at the time of your call and you need him to get back to you, leave your number and he will return your call when he is on duty the next day. (Except Saturday or Sunday – we need more members to have those days covered.)

### ENP NEWS – PRO-RATED MEMBERSHIP FEE



**New!!** You now have the option of joining ENP for a one time **Pro-rated Membership Fee** if you join ENP after the fiscal year begins. Our fiscal year started May 1, 2010. As an example: if you first join in September then you would only need to pay \$100. The pro-rated fee is simply the number of months before the end of April 2011 multiplied by a monthly fee of \$12.50. Beginning May 1, 2011 when we start our second year of ENP, all existing members will need to pay the full \$150 for the year ahead. **The pro-rated fee is a one-time reduction for new members who join for the first time after May 31 of a new fiscal year.**

**NOTE: Paying the pro-rated fee is not available using PayPal at this time.** See the payment instruction sheet with this newsletter for details about how to make your payment. If you have any questions about this new benefit, just send an email to [enp@mpum.com](mailto:enp@mpum.com) or call Donna Mason at 214-348-7721 or Dottie Giesler at 214-349-7028.

### ENP Needs More Members!!

At this time we are so proud to have 208 paid members of our neighborhood ENP program. With these members we are able to employ our off-duty Police Officer, Sr. Corporal Phil Gordon, a total of 14 hours per week. Currently, he patrols at various times of the day, mostly daytime, for 3 hours a day, 4 days a week and 2 hours a day for 1 day a week. We are trying to reach our next goal of 215 members which will allow us to add another hour of patrol to give us 3 hours of patrol, for all 5 days of the week. Then we will start trying to add members to help roll this kind of coverage into the weekends, especially at night. **So we really do need your help!!**

Our ultimate goal is to have all MPUM residents become ENP members. The larger the membership, the more patrol coverage will be available. There is the potential to have ENP officers patrolling up to 50 hours per week.

Our crime has plummeted since we started ENP so we urge you to join us and increase our membership to maximize our hours. Annual membership is \$150 which will become due again May 1, 2011. If you have any questions at all about this program, please send your questions to [enp@mpum.com](mailto:enp@mpum.com) or call Donna Mason at any time at 214-348-7721.

**SEE THE ENCLOSED PAYMENT INSTRUCTION SHEET FOR DETAILS ABOUT HOW TO JOIN!**

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*The Communicator is a publication of the Merriman Park/University Manor Neighborhood Association, P.O. Box 820803, Dallas, TX 75382-0803. Articles, letters and suggestions are invited and appreciated and can be mailed to the P.O. Box or sent via e-mail to [info@mpum.com](mailto:info@mpum.com).*

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