

Hello Woodcreek Neighbors!

I am Jon Ortega, President of the Woodcreek HOA. I am a thirteen year Woodcreek resident and honored to serve in my first term as president. I want to say how grateful I am to Al Overholt for his dedicated leadership as President for the past 10 years. My goal is to continue to work for the improvement of our neighborhood through social events and communicating our concerns and appreciation to city leaders. The Woodcreek officers, trustees and committee chairs, are all here to help make our neighborhood a great place to live. I'm looking forward to another great year in Woodcreek!

Jon Ortega, President, Woodcreek



## Summary - Recent Woodcreek Homeowners Association News

- The Woodcreek Homeowners Association met (17 members present) on September 26th and elected new Board members. Financial report to follow.
  - o The Profit and Loss Statement for the period October 1, 2010 through September 26, 2011 showed Total Income of \$3,492.79 with Total Expenses of \$7,002.10 resulting in a Net Income of -\$3,509.31. Income from dues has been reduced from the previous year (fewer members) and the largest expense (\$3,993.05) was for the long-awaited-new-and-improved entry signs/landscaping project at the South entrance. Half the cost of the sign was covered by a grant from the City of Carrollton and the other half from the Woodcreek Homeowners Association cash reserves. The statement showed total cash balance is \$5,435.75.

- o For 2012, dues are estimated at \$3,750; bridge maintenance (\$1,400 est.) and tree removal (\$300 est.) costs are approved contingent upon availability of funds.
- o Entry Way Improvements to continue – With the new signage at the South entrance, the focus will be Phase II North entrance followed by Phase III landscape improvements at the creek triangle.
- o Metrocrest Social Services will again be the recipient of the Santa Parade outreach program.

#### Neighborhood News

- Russell Tether received the Volunteer of the Year (2011) Award for his work in leading the entry way sign project. Neighbors are encouraged to take a walk out to Kelly and admire the new signage at the corner of off Kelly at Southern Cross and Creekview.
- Al Overholt stepped down from his service on the Board, but will maintain his commitment by focusing on the Landscape Committee and continuing as HOA Government Liaison with the City of Carrollton. For over ten years, Al wore many hats – some leadership roles and some as “tree angel” -- serving (and caring for) the Homeowners Association!
- National Night Out was celebrated October 2nd with a gathering on Valley Mill and turnout was good; the pizza, hot dogs and dessert were shared with gusto and the membership drive was off to a good start!

#### HOA Woodcreek Board Members – 2011-2012

President – Jon Ortega

Vice President – Russell Tether

Secretary – Ted Bellah

Treasurer – Vicki Pippin

Trustee – Karen Martin, Karl Halder, Carey Crawford

#### Woodcreek Homeowners Membership for upcoming year – Due December 1st

Membership in the Homeowners Association supports our neighborhood with improvements to common areas, email alerts concerning lost pets or outdoor pests, community events, and a represented voice at city hall. Your dues (please include your email address!) are welcome anytime and can be directed to Karen Martin at 2225 Valley Mill, kamartin117@yahoo.com .

- \$25 annual – homeowners
- \$15 annual – renters



### **Santa Parade and Food Drive**

Santa will make his annual sleigh-ride through the Woodcreek neighborhood on Saturday, Dec. 10, starting at 10 a.m. Santa and his elves will collect non-perishable food for Metrocrest Social Services along the parade route. Several antique vehicles will be featured in the parade and we welcome any other entries. Please let us know if you'd like to join the parade on foot, or on wheels. We always need help picking up the food donations along the way. Woodcreek residents have been very generous in the past, and we hope to provide a full truckload of food to Metrocrest again this year. After the parade, visit with Santa and get a free professional photo taken with him. This is also a great opportunity to meet your neighbors and enjoy some refreshments. The parade route and more details will be provided in a flyer coming soon. Please contact Terri Romine-Ortega at 972-417-8840 or by email at [terri.romineo@mac.com](mailto:terri.romineo@mac.com) if you'd like to be part of the parade, or if you can help with set up.



### Crabby's Corner

#### POTLS - Poop on the Lawn Stinks

Avoid POTLS - If you are walking your dog, be kind and put your dogs poop in a bag



### Michelles Garden Tips

- Plant your spring bulbs now for spring flowers
- Look for native bulbs available at local nurseries
- Plant colorful native trees and shrubs for hearty winter color and foliage
- Remember to water before a freeze to protect plants and cover with plastic with hearty freezes
- Drain your hose and store in the garage prior to freezes to protect your hose from damage
- Plant colorful containers filled with hearty thrillers, spillers and fillers to add instant color to porches and entry ways!!



## Boy Scout seeks Eagle Project in Woodcreek”

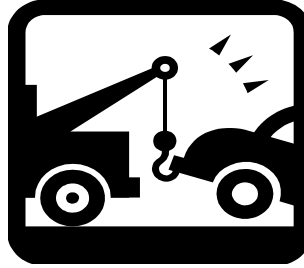
By Jon Ortega

11/23/11

In January of 2011, the City of Carrollton approved an ordinance that requires homes with alley access to post their address numbers for easy identification. This measure was passed in part to aid police and emergency personnel in locating addresses from an alley perspective. Code R319.1 reads in part; “Structures with rear access from an alleyway shall have approved address numbers, building numbers or approved building identification placed in a position that is plainly legible from the alleyway. These numbers shall contrast with their background. Address numbers shall be Arabic numbers or alphabetical letters. Numbers shall be a minimum of 4 inches (102 mm) high with a minimum stroke width of 1/2 inch (12.7 mm).”

Anirudh Sivakumar, a Life Scout with Boy Scout Troop 114 in Carrollton is currently pursuing his Eagle Scout and as such is required to organize a worthwhile community project. Anirudh has proposed to his leaders that his project consist of a service to install address numbers on homes in the Woodcreek neighborhood. This service will be provided free of charge, however donations to fund this project will be accepted. Pending final approval from the Boy Scout leadership in January, Anirudh will distribute flyers in the Woodcreek neighborhood during February or March 2012.

The Woodcreek board applauds Anirudh’s efforts at making our neighborhood a safer place to live while at the same time helping residents comply with a new city ordinance at minimal cost.



## **Bush Turnpike Construction in Carrollton Winds Down**

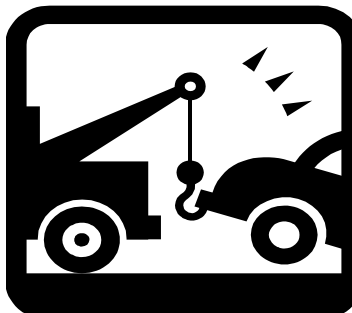
Westbound main lanes on President George Bush Turnpike in Carrollton soon will be restored to their normal, wider configuration as the retaining wall repairs at Kelly Boulevard wind down in December.

Since the retaining wall moved in early 2010, the three westbound main lanes of traffic have been shifted south and the shoulders reduced, funneling motorists safely through a slightly narrower area.

Work began in June on the reconstruction of approximately 500 feet of retaining wall along the Bush Turnpike at Kelly Boulevard. Crews worked mostly at night to excavate the remaining portions of the wall. During July and August crews installed 172 reinforced concrete drilled shafts, poured concrete for the wall footings and began panel placement. In September and October crews installed concrete columns, placed 42 concrete panels and installed a new drainage system.

Crews began excavating and repairing the damaged westbound shoulder in November, and they began placing an estimated 18,562 cubic yards of backfill material behind the new drill shaft.

The current schedule anticipates substantial completion of the project, including the restoration of the shoulders and main lanes, in December 2011, subject to weather conditions.





## **4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL WOODCREEK COOKIE EXCHANGE**

This is a great way to get to know your neighbors and have some tasty treats to take home.

Location: Michelle's Nutty Nutcracker house at 2105 Woodcreek

December 10<sup>th</sup> 1pm-3:30

RSVP: 972-416-7292

1. RSVP quickly, there will be prizes for the 1st and 10th that RSVP and show up with cookies in hand.
2. RSVP your cookie so we don't have duplicates (Just 2 sugar cookie and one chocolate chip, RSVP fast if that's your specialty)
3. This year's theme will be "Cookies of Color" (fruit, candies, food colors, sprinkles, icings,) get creative. Don't forget your holiday attire.
4. NO no-bakes or bars this year.
5. Bring 4 (four) dozen cookies on a plate/platter, there will be prizes for most creative platters, etc.
6. I will be supplying every guest with a platter to take your goodies home on. (if you came last year and still have yours, please bring it along)
7. Light luncheon fare will be served with refreshments and treats.
8. Please please make your cookies 3-4 days prior to the cookie exchange. That way they don't break easily, and if you burned some, you have time to re-bake. Remember, cookies store best in airtight containers in cool environments.
9. Life happens, if you RSVP and you made your cookies, but you can not come, bring your cookies by earlier and I will put your platter together for you.
10. Please RSVP before December 7th if you plan to attend, I need to know how many platters to get and to prepare for games and prizes. Your hostess sincerely appreciates your RSVP.

Editors

Michelle Gibbs and Colette Harmon

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