

MAR 2022

P.O. Box 830114, Richardson, TX 75083



CROWLEY PARK

www.CrowleyPark.com

CPNA NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

From The President

Dear CPNA'ers,

Spring is just around the corner, the days are warmer, and the sun is rising earlier and setting later. So, we all start to think about our gardens and landscaping. Won't be long until the wildflowers put on their annual show in the park. Crowley Park Neighborhood Association and your gardens are very similar...both take nurturing, watering, feeding and care to thrive.

CPNA needs your help to thrive and grow. CPNA was nurtured to life about 13 years ago and it has grown and thrived. However, it is time to add more fertilizer and care (..i.e YOU), by seeking volunteering opportunities with CPNA. We have a need for board members and officers. Our esteemed secretary Dot Pitts has been secretary for the last 13 years. There is an opportunity for someone to step up and take a "turn" at secretary. Rockie Marvel has been working on the newsletter and other tasks for 13+ years. Again, there is an opportunity for involvement in CPNA.

Becoming involved in CPNA has several benefits. You will be on "first name basis" with city council and the City manager, director of Parks and Rec., Director of Public Works, etc... Also you will meet new friends that you never knew you had. Finally, you will have earned a tremendous sense of community. Reach out to any office or board member of CPNA to learn how to get involved.

One last item: when you are out in the neighborhood walking, jogging, running, biking, etc... REMOVE THE HEADPHONES, AND EARBUDS! With your hearing impaired you lose situational awareness and could be subject to bad things...

Go forth and have a good day.

Terry Ziegler

President of Crowley Park Neighborhood.

Hit the Trails

Springtime is “just around the corner”, so put on your walking shoes or hop on your bike, and check out some of the wonderful parks and trails that connect to our own Crowley Park.

Richardson’s Spring Creek Trail contains 4.5 miles of heavily-wooded, winding, looping trail. Although immediately located at the southeast corner of Central Expressway and Renner Road, one forgets how close they are to the freeway because of the trees and the impressive views of Spring Creek. The City’s Renner Trail connects to this trail from the west, and a number of the City’s eastern trails (Central and Owens) originate from it as well.

In addition, a recently completed extension now carries the trail to the north where it intersects with Alma Drive and the George Bush Freeway. Accessibility: The trail surface is paved and it typically at least six feet wide. It is gentle with an estimated average grade of 1% and a max grade of 3%. Most wheelchair/mobility equipment and stroller users will find this trail navigable. Paved parking is available at Central/Renner Road, and numerous park benches are also scattered along the trail for resting.

Crowley Park 2020 Events

Be sure to Save the Dates for some of our upcoming events! We are excited to be in-person again and connecting with our neighbors. We are excited to see you and also welcome your ideas for new events you might like to have and participate in this year.

March 2nd & 3rd COR Parks Open House to discuss park plans. See next article.

May 7th Crowley Park Home Garden Tour 12:30pm-3pm

Come tour some of the best gardens in Crowley Park! Your neighbors will open their gardens on May 7, to showcase landscape gardening, vegetable gardening/composting, shade gardens, drought-tolerant plants, water features and many more landscape designs.

We will be providing details shortly on our website CrowleyPark.com, NextDoor, Facebook and Instagram on how to register as both a garden host and tour participant.

May 14th International Potluck 4-6pm

July 4th Independence Day Parade and Ice Cream Social

Oct 29th Fall Festival and Trunk or Treat!

December Winter Lights Contest

More details will follow on all these events so be sure to watch your email, NextDoor, Facebook, etc. You can also visit our website to view the Calendar and changes are made: <https://www.crowleypark.com/calendar>. For more information and to volunteer, email cpna75082@gmail.com

Richardson requesting feedback on parks and recreation needs

Written by Jackson King (edited by CPNA)

A plan for updating the Richardson Parks & Recreation Department's goals was presented to City Council at its Feb. 7 meeting.

As part of the project, the city will seek public input on identifying areas of interest for its Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Master Plan. Richardson's Parks & Recreation Commission will oversee the project.



Richardson plans to hold four focus group sessions and gain additional stakeholder input. The city will also conduct two communitywide open house meetings for all Richardson residents in addition to developing surveys, both online and at city facilities, to collect community feedback.

Updating the master plan will allow the city to refocus its efforts on what residents need in terms of parks and other recreation uses, allowing council and other departments to plan for future projects based on funding opportunities and other factors, said Lori Smeby, Richardson's director of the parks and recreation department.

"I think there is an expectation in the community that our plans [for the parks] fit into our goals, strategies and tactics as a city," Mayor Paul Voelker said. "It's important to put a stake in the ground every so often so both our residents and businesses know what is in the future for Richardson."

The city of Richardson conducts an update to the master plan every five years and schedules a rewrite every 10 years. "Richardson is required to do the updates in order to receive grant opportunities at the county and state level," Smeby said. The last update to the master plan was adopted in 2017.

The program of updating the master plan is divided into two phases. City staff is collecting data, both from city trends and community feedback, to determine what is needed and desired. Once this data is analyzed, the city can develop an action plan along with financial strategies to be presented to council. The master plan is scheduled to be adopted by council in early 2023.

Choose one of two open house options. Same content!

OPEN HOUSE #1:
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2ND, 2022
5:30-7:30 PM
HEIGHTS RECREATION CENTER
711 W. ARAPAHO RD.

OPEN HOUSE #2:
THURSDAY, MARCH 3RD, 2022
5:30-7:30 PM
HUFFHINES RECREATION CENTER
200 N. PLANO RD.

No formal presentations. Stop by at your convenience.

You can find more information about each plan with the links below:

Active Transportation Plan: www.cor.net/atp

Parks and Recreation Master Plan: www.cor.net/parksmasterplan

Membership

By Monica Enfield



Crowley Park Thrives When Neighbors Join Together

Did you know that the Crowley Park Neighborhood Association (CPNA) is a voluntary neighborhood association, and not a mandatory homeowners association? CPNA strives to develop the lines of communication with the City of Richardson, promote a safe, clean and attractive community, and bring residents together to preserve and enhance the livability and value of our neighborhood. But we need you as a CPNA member!

Look what members have helped the CPNA accomplish, by partnering with the City of Richardson:

- New North End Playground
- Beautification of Crowley Park sign at Jupiter Rd & Renner Rd
- Updating street signs within Crowley Park

- “Shade the Trail” Phase-1 program completed with the planting of over 80 trees
- Sidewalks to the South Pavilion and restroom
- Sidewalks to the North End Playground and Pavilion, plus water fountain
- Traffic flow changes on Clear Spring Road

By becoming a member of CPNA, you become a “voice” in the community and make Crowley Park a great place to live. The CPNA board hopes you consider joining or renewing your membership today. We always welcome new ideas and encourage volunteers.

Membership is open to all homeowners and tenants. Check out CrowleyPark.com/Membership for details.

Volunteering and its Surprising Benefits

Are you an empty nester, retired, or simply interested in something worthwhile to do? Why not volunteer your time with your Crowley Park Neighborhood Association (a 501 c3 nonprofit organization). We currently have several leadership positions and committees available for consideration which are listed at the end of this article.

While it’s true that the more you volunteer, the more benefits you’ll experience, volunteering doesn’t have to involve a long-term commitment or take a huge amount of time out of your busy life.

For instance, you could volunteer to serve on a special events committee such as International Potluck, 4th of July Parade, annual meeting, etc. on a short-term basis. Once the event takes place, you are finished. Of course, you could also serve again the next year when the event takes place. Your expertise and experience add tremendously to the work of the organization and its benefit to the community.

Consider these three (3) special Benefits of volunteering:

(1) Volunteering connects you to others.

One of the more well-known benefits of volunteering is the impact on the community. Volunteering allows you to connect with your Crowley Park neighbors and make it a better place. Even helping with the smallest tasks can make a real difference to the lives of people within the neighborhood. Additionally, volunteering is a two-way street; it can benefit you and your family as much as the cause you choose to help. Dedicating your time as a volunteer helps you make new friends, share gifts and talents, and boost your social skills.

(2) Volunteering is good for your mind and body.

Volunteering helps counteract the effects of stress, anger, and anxiety. The social contact aspect of helping and working with others can have a profound effect on your overall psychological well-being. Nothing relieves stress better than a meaningful connection to another person.

(3) Volunteering brings fun and fulfillment to your life.

Volunteering is a fun and easy way to explore your interests and passions. Working in areas you find meaningful and interesting can be a relaxing, energizing escape from your day-to-day routine of work, school, or family commitments. It also provides you with renewed creativity, motivation, and vision that can carry over into your personal and professional life.

If you have an interest in volunteering and serving or want more information about the open positions, we would really like to talk with you with no obligation or commitment. However, you may just find the right opportunity to serve!

List of current openings:

- 2 Membership Co Chairs
- Communications Chair
- Safety/Crime Watch Chair
- Social Committee
- Welcome Members Committee
- Publications Committee
- Technology Committee
- Civic and Environment Committee

Horace Satisfield
Vice President-Crowley Park Neighborhood Association
Cpna75082@gmail.com

Get Ready For Spring Gardens

By Monica Enfield

Save the Date: Crowley Park Home Garden Tour, 2022 – May 7, 12:00-3:00 pm

Come tour some of the best gardens in Crowley Park! Your neighbors will open their gardens on May 7, to showcase landscape gardening, vegetable gardening/composting, shade gardens, drought-tolerant plants, water features and many more landscape designs.

We will be providing details shortly on our website CrowleyPark.com, NextDoor, Facebook and Instagram on how to register as both a garden host and tour participant.



In addition, Chuck Hollocker has plans to publish an extensive CPNA Gardening Guide. He warns that as a work in progress, this might take a little while. Contributions are sought from our readership on all things gardening. The planned TOC follows:

1. Guidance for the Year

- 1.1 Overview of Planting
- 1.2 January Gardening Tips
- 1.3 April Gardening Tips
- 1.4 July Gardening Tips
- 1.5 October Gardening Tips

2. Specific Plants

- 2.1 Fruits
- 2.3 Herbs
- 2.4 Flowers

3. Special Topics

- 3.1 The Butterfly Garden
- 3.2 The Fall Garden
- 3.3 Invasive Plants to Avoid
- 3.4 Ground Cover
- 3.5 Wildflower History
- 3.6 Seeding, Transplanting and Clippings

4. Fighting Bugs and Beasts

5. Canning and pickling

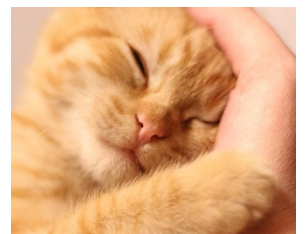


Help Animals

By Chuck Hollocker

<https://www.sPCA.org/> and <https://www.cor.net/departments/animal-services>

Perhaps the largest and best-known animal advocate is the SPCA. We are also blessed with a great animal shelter in Richardson. Both of these organizations, like any other business, have been distressed during the days of Covid-19.



- 1) DONATIONS. With your gift, you are providing critical support for animals throughout North Texas.
- 2) In addition to monetary donations, the Richardson shelter also welcomes the donation of blankets, bowls, newspaper, carriers, treats, etc. Call them if you might have something.

They also have an Amazon.com wishlist:

https://www.amazon.com/registry/wishlist/1Q39VHAJODPWC/ref=cm_sw_r_cp_ep_ws_iq3xAb9M1R245

3) **ADOPTIONS.** Give an animal a second chance at a happy life.

Visit the Richardson Animal Shelter and Animals Shelter website for a wide selection of adoptable animals. The shelter places new animals on the website for adoption daily but contact or visit the shelter to see every animal. If you're looking for a particular pet, do not hesitate contacting the shelter.

Schedule An Appointment to See Adoptable Animals

Here: <https://richardsonanimalshelter.setmore.com/>

Requirements for Adoption Cats and Dogs

- Adult Dogs (Older than 6 months) - \$25
- Adult Cats (Older than 6 months) - \$15
- Puppies (6 months or younger) - \$35
- Kittens (6 months or younger) - \$20

* All adoptions require a signed contract stating you will vaccinate for rabies and spay/neuter each animal adopted (if the animal has not had these already completed).

* Proof of rabies vaccination and spay/neuter must be provided to the Animal Shelter before the due date on contract. Do not rely on your veterinarian to send in the information for you. We suggest bringing in proof in person. If this is not possible, you may fax or mail it to us.

* The Richardson Animal Shelter currently has a Part-time Veterinarian for shelter pets only. We provide general vaccinations and basic care for the animals to the best of our ability. We cannot guarantee the health of each animal adopted. It is the responsibility of the adopter to have the animal thoroughly examined by a licensed veterinarian.

Adopter must be 18 years old with Valid Identification.

Looking for a Lost Pet or What pets might become adoptable soon? Check out our Lost and Found Page by clicking this link: <https://www.cor.net/departments/animal-services/lost-or-found-animals>



- 4) **OTHER OPPORTUNITIES.** These organizations are always looking for good foster homes.
- 5) **REPORT SUSPECTED ABUSE** Speak up and help stop animal cruelty in your neighborhood. <https://www.sPCA.org/abuse>

Did You Know it's an Ordinance?

Address numbers are a requirement in a City of Richardson Ordinance:

- To enable the Police and Fire Departments to respond quickly to emergency calls
- To be posted for clear visibility from the street and alley
- To have numbers on the curb or curbside mailbox in the front of the home
- To have numbers in back of a residence on the home, garage, fence, between 3 and 10 feet off the ground.
- To have address numbers that are a minimum of 3 inches high so that they are easily seen



On the curb

On the brick mailbox

Remember, emergency personnel cannot find your home if a car is blocking the address numbers.

DID YOU ALSO KNOW?

To Light Up Crowley Park:

- It would only cost \$1.56 per year to turn on your porch light for 6 hours!!
- The average 800-lumen CFL uses 13 watts and costs \$1.56 per year to run.
- LEDs have just become what some people would call affordable in the last 12 months.
- The average 800-lumen LED has a life span of 22,000 hours and costs around \$11 per bulb.



If everyone in Crowley Park turned on the porch light at dusk, just imagine;

- taking an evening stroll before bedtime
- walking the dog before retiring
- security in our neighborhood

Shade the Trail and Shade our Neighborhood

By Nancy Crowe

Well, here we are on the threshold of another HOT summer in North Texas! Spring is the time of year to plant new trees and allow them to get established before the summer is upon us. We REALLY value that shade to park our cars under and walk under. This leads me to how wonderful our new trees will be in coming years to provide shade at Crowley Park along the trail - thanks to Shade the Trail and our wonderful residents who have contributed to more than 100 trees planted!! To commemorate the wonderful donors to the Shade the Trail program, a plaque will be installed by the city at the corner of Blackberry and Honeysuckle Drive.

We will also be continuing our beautification efforts with applying for another Matching Funds Beautification Grant as part of the City of Richardson Beautification Program to continue planting ornamental trees as understory along the tree line around the park as well as a possible butterfly garden. I hope you will consider contributing to this effort.

We are so fortunate to live in this community with a lot of mature trees compared to new developments. That being said, we need to be good stewards on our individual properties and consider that when we lose a tree, we might want to consider replacing that tree with another one. Just like we are replacing trees in the park that are lost to lightning strikes or old age, we need to know that each tree in our individual yards is valuable to us personally and the community as a whole.

To provide some ideas on types of trees to replant, consider the following Texas Natives from the approved list on the City of Richardson website:

Canopy Trees – large trees that provide wonderful shade, these are what are being planted at Crowley Park as part of the Shade the Trail program along the trail:

- Burr Oak
- Shumard Red Oak
- Chinquapin Oak
- Cedar Elm

Ornamental Trees – smaller trees, colorful, don't provide as much shade, used as understory trees or for smaller areas in your yard:

- Red Bud
- Mexican Plum
- Rose of Sharon
- Crape Myrtle (please don't perform "Crape Murder" and whack them off!)
- Rough-Leaf Dogwood

Crowley Park and our neighborhood have matured and grown along with the trees that were planted here decades ago. With all the concrete and building in our area, when I turn into our neighborhood and drive past the park and down the neighborhood streets, I breathe a sigh of relief and feel that I have entered a peaceful place very unlike pulling out onto Jupiter, Renner, or Hwy 190.

We should all be proud of creating that feeling whether we have donated a tree to Shade the Trail or planted a new tree in our own yard. Keep planting those new trees so that decades from now Crowley Park will still be the envy of Richardson!

For more information, to make a donation, or to purchase a tree, please contact Nancy Crowe at 214-679-3091 or ncrowe3@hotmail.com

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Richardson Flags

Show your patriotism and support your community. Join the flag program in Crowley Park. Get flags in your yard for \$40 per year. Proceeds provide scholarships for RISD Students. Local Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts earn revenue by participating in this program.



\$40 Per Year
Delivery, Setup and Removal for Five Holidays

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Tucker (Golden Retriever) and Bandit (Daschund)

Your Crowley Park Neighbor and Realtor

I may be new to this neighborhood but I'm not new to real estate! I'm in my 20th year with Ebby Halliday and have recently moved to Spring Lake Drive across from the park.

The market is strong and inventory is low. If you're considering selling your home or are curious about its value, let's talk. I look forward to meeting my new neighbors!



Chris Hickman

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