

MARCH/APRIL 2017

## HIGHLANDS OF PLANO PRESTON RIDGE



### *The Highlander*

[WWW.HOPPR.ORG](http://WWW.HOPPR.ORG)



## BOARD MEMBERS

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Homeowners,

I hope everyone is having a wonderful start to the year. Winter appears to be winding down (did we really have winter or was this just a Texas winter?) and spring will soon be upon us, so I encourage you to get out and enjoy the wonderful weather with your friends and neighbors while you can as the Texas summer will surely follow quickly. We can only hope that spring will bring rain as well as wonderful colors from the plants and trees as they awaken from their slumber.

If you are new to the HOPPR community, welcome! We look forward to meeting you at one of the many upcoming functions. If you have not already done so, there is a community website called "Nextdoor" that is easy to set up for our neighborhood at [www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com). Through this site, the City of Plano communicates crime watch information and provides a search tool and recommendations for service providers within the community.

The HOA board moved to provide curb numbers to all houses beginning on March 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, so please remember to park on either side of your yard to allow the workers to take care of your house. They will be in the neighborhood from 7am – 5pm, so please be mindful when driving through the neighborhood.

If you have exterior work scheduled for this spring, please remember to get

ACC approval prior to beginning any work. The form can be found on the neighborhood website, [www.hoppr.org](http://www.hoppr.org) or at the CMA website.

As a reminder, there are several organized groups within the neighborhood, including bridge clubs and a book club that meet on a regular basis. If you would like to join one of these groups or would like to start a group, please feel free to do so and we would be glad to publish it in the newsletter.

There are still several ways for you to become involved in the HOA. We are always on the lookout for community members looking to give back and help out with the different committees. Many of the committee chairs and board members attend social functions, so it would be a good time to chat about joining and becoming part of the HOPPR community.

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Warmest regards,

Matt Frishman  
[President@hoppr.org](mailto:President@hoppr.org)



**President: Matthew Frishman**  
[president@hoppr.org](mailto:president@hoppr.org)

**Vice President: Brandon Furman**  
[vicepresident@hoppr.org](mailto:vicepresident@hoppr.org)

**Treasurer: Gary Snyder**  
[treasurer@hoppr.org](mailto:treasurer@hoppr.org)

**Secretary: Marcus Ku**  
[secretary@hoppr.org](mailto:secretary@hoppr.org)

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[director@hoppr.org](mailto:director@hoppr.org)

**Landscape Chair: Debbie Price**  
[landscape@hoppr.org](mailto:landscape@hoppr.org)

**Architectural Chair: John Thune**  
[acc@hoppr.org](mailto:acc@hoppr.org)

**Good Neighbor Chair: Eli Baron**  
[eb.boatman@gmail.com](mailto:eb.boatman@gmail.com)

**Webmaster: Wanda Dunn**  
[website@hoppr.org](mailto:website@hoppr.org)

**Crime Watch Chair: Ted Hajec**  
[crimewatch@hoppr.org](mailto:crimewatch@hoppr.org)

**Welcome Chair: Dale McGilvray**  
[welcome@hoppr.org](mailto:welcome@hoppr.org)

**Interim Social Chair: Beth Kassul**  
[social@hoppr.org](mailto:social@hoppr.org)

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**Laura Ahle** [newsletter@hoppr.org](mailto:newsletter@hoppr.org)

**CMA Community Management**  
**Dan Estep**  
[destep@cmamanagement.com](mailto:destep@cmamanagement.com)  
972-943-2856

## WELCOME COMMITTEE



**BOARD  
MEETINGS**

### WELCOME NEW RESIDENTS!

If you are new to our neighborhood, please call Dale McGilvray at 972-867-2824 or email her at [welcome@hoppr.org](mailto:welcome@hoppr.org). She will be happy to supply you with information about Plano, as well as a directory for the Highlands of Plano Preston Ridge neighborhood along with the latest *Highlander* newsletter.



**Dale McGilvray**  
Welcome Committee Chair

[welcome@hoppr.org](mailto:welcome@hoppr.org)



### A WARM "WELCOME" TO OUR NEWEST NEIGHBORS!

Please add the following names  
to the directory

Adam Gengo & Bethany Hesse  
4324 Barnsley

Jason Hang & Katrina Tang  
4408 Barnsley

Julie Hart  
2816 Browning

Jason Stein  
4401 Oak Knoll

Sachin & Sharon Vengurlekar  
4420 Briar Hollow

Please delete the following  
names from the directory:

Vik Gowda & Payal Parija  
4324 Barnsley

Tianpeng Gu & Xiangrui Kang  
4408 Barnsley

Steven & Carolyn Mathis  
2816 Browning

Aaron & Stephanie Segal  
4401 Oak Knoll

David & Journey Choi  
4420 Briar Hollow

### 2017 SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 15

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17

WED., AUGUST 16

WED., SEPTEMBER 20

WED., OCTOBER 18

ANNUAL MTG.  
TUESDAY, NOV. 7

ALL MEETINGS ARE AT  
7:00 PM

FOR LOCATION

CONTACT MATT FRISHMAN  
[PRESIDENT@HOPPR.ORG](mailto:PRESIDENT@HOPPR.ORG)

## HOPPR DIRECTORY!

The HOPPR Directory will be updated and reissued in April. This past year, we have been taking a poll to see whether homeowners prefer an electronic PDF copy or a hard copy of the directory. If you haven't made your preference known, please do so by the end of March by emailing Jim Rice at [jrtx99@yahoo.com](mailto:jrtx99@yahoo.com). Also, if you have any telephone number changes or additions, let him that as well. New homeowners who have been contacted by the Welcome Committee do not need to resubmit their directory information. We have it!





# LANDSCAPE



This winter season has been wonderful, volatile and confusing. I'm not a huge fan of cold weather, but I know we need it to battle the insects, weeds and allergens. With that being said, I've turned to the expert to give you tips for this spring. I was concerned about the amount of early weeds showing in my yard because of the warm weather. This is what I learned. I hope it answers many of your questions. Also know that our friends at Calloways Nursery have experts available to answer your specific questions. Have a great Spring Break with your family and enjoy spring!

## Neil Sperry Article

The pace of gardening in North Texas has certainly ramped up these past several weeks. My best measure is from the questions I'm being asked pretty much wherever I go. Here are the ones that keep coming up this time around.

### **“Is the timing for application of pre-emergent weedkillers different this year because of warm spells in late winter?”**

No. Soils have remained fairly cool, and germination of summer weeds won't begin until sometime in mid-March or later. Timing for application of pre-emergent weedkiller granules to prevent germination of crabgrass and grassburs will still be between March 5 and 15, with a “booster shot” application 90 days later. Both applications are critical. If you skip one, you'll end up with weeds.

What confuses some people is that they can see weeds out there growing in their lawns already. What they don't realize is that those are “cool-season” weeds such as annual bluegrass, clover, dandelions, chickweed and henbit. Those are prevented by a fall application of pre-emergent made the first week of September. Those weeds actually germinate in early fall, but they stay small until it starts to warm up in spring.

It also needs to be noted that if you have a lawn-care company, they may be telling you slightly different dates. I'm sure they stand behind their results, and I certainly understand that they can't be on every one of their customers' lawns on the date Neil suggests in the newspaper. They also have access to different products than you and I do. If you've been happy with the results of their work, follow their lead. We can all still be friends!

### **“How should I prune plants that were damaged by this winter's cold?”**

If stems are shriveled or crisp, they can be cut back. But some plants will put out new leaves along their stems. You may want to wait a couple more weeks to see if they'll offer to regrow. If shrubs are partially damaged, you may need to do corrective re-shaping of the plants to restore their good looks.

Asian jasmine beds that have been browned can be cleaned up with a line trimmer or with your mower set to its highest setting. Pampasgrass that was browned should be trimmed, but be careful not to cut new green blades. If you do, they'll be stubbed off the rest of this growing season.

### **“How soon can I plant new grass to fill in some bare spots?”**

Warm-season grasses (bermuda, St. Augustine, zoysia) should be planted after mid-April. In an emergency, if erosion is a serious threat, bermuda sod could be laid at almost any time, but you'll have a much better finished product if you wait until soils have warmed and the grass is growing actively to plant.

As a side note, if the bare areas are beneath trees, there may not be enough sunlight there to sustain turf. That could be why the areas are bare in the first place. It's the most common gardening dilemma about which I'm asked. Be sure that's not the case before you invest good money in grass that will fail.

### **“When should I prune my roses? They didn't do very well last year.”**

Bush roses of all types and varieties are pruned by 50 percent in February. Each cut should be made just above a bud that faces out from the center of the plant.

Roses in the DFW Metroplex have been ravaged by rose rosette virus for the past five or six years. That may very well be why your plants didn't perform well last year. Afflicted plants produce strong “bull” canes that have many times the normal number of thorns. Their flowers do not open properly, and by later in the same year, the plants become browned and lethargic. Rosette is spread by a microscopic mite. We have no control for either the virus or the mite, and pathologists and rosarians insist that affected plants must be dug, roots and all, and sent to the landfill. It's a sad story, but Texas A&M and many others are working on solutions. Perhaps the outlook will eventually be better.

### **“How far back can I trim my shrubs?”**

If you can do so before they gear up for vigorous spring growth, you can usually take off 20 to 30 percent of a shrub's growth without any problem. Use lopping and hand shears, not power tools to do so, however, so you can pluck out the dead branches and so the plants won't end up with the look of burr haircuts. If you find that you're having to do this year after year, consider replacing the shrubs with another smaller selection.

**(Continued on page 8)**



**Debbie Price**  
Landscape  
Committee  
Chairperson

[landscape@hoppr.org](mailto:landscape@hoppr.org)



# Neighborhood Book Club Report



The Neighborhood Book Club met at the home of Nechama Baron on January 10th to discuss our book "The Art of Hearing Heartbeats" by Jan Philipp Sendker.

Nechama facilitated our discussion with significant background about the author and was able to stimulate an interesting conversation among the members. The continuing benefit of our meetings is the educational opportunities provided by the books we select. We now have a greater knowledge of Burma and the culture of this far away land. Member, Diane Ross had recently visited Burma and had examples of products and clothing pertinent to this country which contributed greatly to our discussion.

Our next meeting will be March 14th from 1-3 at the home of Nancy Gibbs, 4320 Kingsbury Dr. Our selection for this meeting is "Hillbilly Elegy" by J.D. Vance. Below is a synopsis of the book.

You will not read a more important book about America this year."—The Economist

"A riveting book."—The Wall Street Journal

"Essential reading."—David Brooks, New York Times

From a former marine and Yale Law School graduate, a powerful account of growing up in a poor Rust Belt town that offers a broader, probing look at the struggles of America's white working class.

Hillbilly Elegy is a passionate and personal analysis of a culture in crisis—that of white working-class Americans. The decline of this group, a demographic of our country that has been slowly

disintegrating over forty years, has been reported on with growing frequency and alarm, but has never before been written about as searingly from the inside. J. D. Vance tells the true story of what a social, regional, and class decline feels like when you were born with it hung around your neck.

The Vance family story begins hopefully in postwar America. J. D.'s grandparents were "dirt poor and in love," and moved north from Kentucky's Appalachia region to Ohio in the hopes of escaping the dreadful poverty around them. They raised a middle-class family, and eventually their grandchild (the author) would graduate from Yale Law School, a conventional marker of their success in achieving generational upward mobility.

But as the family saga of Hillbilly Elegy plays out, we learn that this is only the short, superficial version. Vance's grandparents, aunt, uncle, sister, and, most of all, his mother, struggled profoundly with the demands of their new middle-class life, and were never able to fully escape the legacy of abuse, alcoholism, poverty, and trauma so characteristic of their part of America. Vance piercingly shows how he himself still carries around the demons of their chaotic family history.

A deeply moving memoir with its share of humor and vividly colorful figures, Hillbilly Elegy is the story of how upward mobility really feels. And it is an urgent and troubling meditation on the loss of the American dream for a large segment of this country.

See you in March. *Barbara*

## Next Meeting

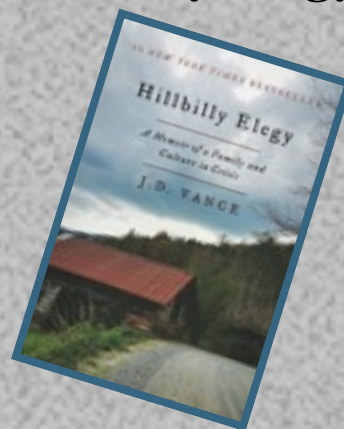
March 14, 2017

Time: 1 - 3 p.m.

Nancy Gibbs

4320 Kingsbury Dr.

## Hillbilly Elegy



Barbara Rice  
Book Club  
Coordinator





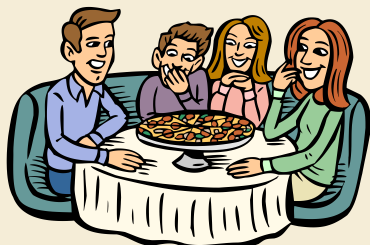
## SOCIAL NEWS



### UPCOMING SPRING ADULT SOCIAL

Email: [social@hoppr.org](mailto:social@hoppr.org)  
 Chairperson: Beth Kassul

#### Spring Adult Social Happy Hour



**Beth Kassul**  
 Social Chair  
[social@hoppr.org](mailto:social@hoppr.org)

**Organizer: John Horan**  
**Date: Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup>**

Location: Katy Trail Ice House Plano  
 Location: Outside area so we can mingle, weather permitting  
 Preston & Park/ask for HOPPR group  
**Time: 5:00pm to 7:00pm**  
 Happy Hour prices until 7:00  
 Enjoy complimentary appetizers and prize drawings!

If you would like to see an event added to our social calendar this year, and are willing to spearhead it let us know! We just need more volunteers to head up these events. I am here to support your efforts. We currently need a volunteer to coordinate/host the holiday luncheon held the first week of December. The event is catered so all you need to do is coordinate the food and provide your beautiful home for approx. 30 residents. (Based on past luncheons)  
 Any questions regarding events, please email [social@hoppr.org](mailto:social@hoppr.org)

Save the date for the following events:

**Spring Family Block Party**

Organizer: Lynda Gates  
 Date: Sunday, May 7th  
 Time: 2-4  
 More details to follow!

**National Night Out & Chili Cook Off**

Organizers: Crime Watch Team & Social  
 Date: Tuesday, October 3 is Texas National Night Out  
 Details to follow

**Fall Adult Social**

Organizer: John Horan  
 Date: TBD in September

**Holiday luncheon**

Organizer: TBD  
 Date: TBD in December



## CRIME WATCH

### Neighborhood Watch Works!

#### From Plano Police Department Crime Prevention Unit:

As the “eyes and ears” in your community you are an invaluable partner in our crime-fighting efforts. Please continue to immediately call 911 to report any suspicious persons, vehicles, or circumstances.

We are always eager to share our expertise to increase the safety for your families, property, neighborhoods, communities, and workplaces. Please take advantage of the following services:

#### Home Security Assessments:

Our staff of police officers and crime prevention specialists can come to your residence and conduct an assessment of your property and make suggestions on how you can make your residence more burglar-resistant. There is no fee for this service and appointments are available during the day, evenings, and weekends.

#### Safety Seminars:

Officer Mark Dawson and Officer Christopher Blanez offer programs on a variety of safety topics. There is no cost for these programs and they have been delivered to numerous businesses, associations, churches, schools, and HOAs. They offer programs on the following topics:

- Personal Safety
- Property Safety
- JID, Theft, Frauds, & Scams
- Protecting Children

To schedule a home security assessment for your residence or bring a safety program to your business, church, association, or neighborhood contact the Crime Prevention Unit at **972-941-2431**.

**Christopher Blanez**  
Police Officer

#### Crime Watch Block Captains

Barnsley	Jean Sutton: 202-0105
Briar Hollow	Dan Buckman: 398-2211
Browning	Susan Bushey: 985-0213
Castleglen	Marsha Hammock: 398-0201
Copper Ridge	Patti Goodwin: 596-3435
Crosstimber	Rhonda Armour: 596-3410
Elmhurst	Cheryl Swihart: 214-455-5692
Elmhurst	Rob Swihart: 214-207-9265
High Mesa (4300-4416)	Susan Bushey: 985-0213
High Mesa (4417-4440)	Jim Gauthier 214-564-7523
Kingsbury	Sunil Patell 972-867-8022
Meadow Ridge	Norma Hemphill: 214-440-2993
Oak Knoll E/Browning	Laura Kirk: 596-5838
Oak Knoll W/Browning:	D. Ross 903-824-1768
Oates	Vicky Grover: 867-4941
Preston Meadow	Joyce Gant: 964-9681
St. Regas	Jean Sutton 202-0105
Vista Knoll	Jody Goldblatt: 867-2290
Wingren	Brandon Furman: 515-7957
Woodmoor	Beth Kassul 867-3244

*Numbers are 972 area code unless otherwise specified.*

#### Crime reports for the past 2 months

There were (0) Crime Reports for the months of mid-December to mid-February in our HOPPR neighborhood. Check out all reports at:

<https://www.plano.gov/Archive.aspx?AMID=65>

I encourage each of you to check out these sites to stay informed.

There were (0) Crime reports in the area for the months of mid-December to mid-February.

To see all crime reports, check out <https://www.crimereports.com/map/index/?search=Plano TX>

## CRIMEWATCH



**Ted Hajec**

**Crime Watch Committee Chair**

[crimewatch@hoppr.org](mailto:crimewatch@hoppr.org)

Check out **NextDoor.com** to communicate with your **HOPPR** neighbors.

Is the **nextdoor.com** site private?

Yes. HOPPR has its own group. When you post there, only members in our group, or in some cases our neighboring groups can see it. Please join to stay more in touch with latest crime news.





## ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL COMMITTEE (ACC)



Hello Neighbors.

When submitting an ACC request for staining a fence, painting your home exterior, or any other project with a color change, please provide a color sample with your request or the website where the color can be viewed. This will help expedite approval of your project.

Also, although the ACC normally responds in less than 10 days, you should, for planning purposes, allow a minimum of 10 days from the time you submit a completed ACC request form before commencing work.

A complete set of the neighborhood's Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions as well as the required ACC Application Form are available on our website at [www.hoppr.org/FormsDocs.php](http://www.hoppr.org/FormsDocs.php), or you can contact our CMA Property Manager, Dan Estep, at 972-943-2856. If you have any questions regarding the Deeds and Restrictions, or questions about your planned improvements, you can contact John Thune, Architectural Control Committee Chairman, at 214-437-9753 or [john.p.thune@gmail.com](mailto:john.p.thune@gmail.com).

John Thune



John Thune  
ACC Chairperson  
214-437-9753



## BRIDGE CLUBS

### Men's Bridge

The **Men's Bridge Club** plays social bridge on the third Tuesday of every month. They begin at 7:00 p.m. and play until about 10:00.

**Gary McGilvray** was first and **Bob Woodchek** was second in January.

**Keith Hansen** was first and **Dave Scott** was second in February.

*If you are interested in joining, please contact Keith Hansen at 972-596-7429 for more information.*

### Ladies' Bridge

The **Ladies' Bridge Club** meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. Again this is a purely social club -- not cut throat, just fun party bridge.

**Dale McGilvray** was first and **Othella Marsh** was second in January.

**Jean Williams** was first and **Nancy Griffith** was second in February.

*For more information regarding ladies' bridge, contact Marcia Hansen at 972-596-7429.*



**NEED A BABYSITTER OR A PETSITTER?**



**Need a babysitter?**

**Contact:**

[newsletter@hoppr.org](mailto:newsletter@hoppr.org)

for more information

*Highlands of Plano Preston Ridge HOA adds names to this list on request and the list is only available to residents. Highlands of Plano Preston Ridge HOA reserves the right to modify or refuse listings for any reason. (Inclusion on this list is not an endorsement).*



**Need a petsitter?**

**Contact:**

[newsletter@hoppr.org](mailto:newsletter@hoppr.org)

for more information

*(Information is supplied at request of resident and is not an endorsement by the HOA or Board of Directors)*

Continued from Page 3



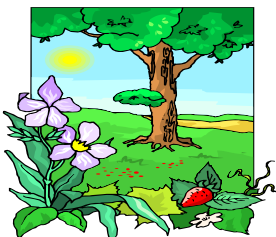
**“When should I apply my weed-and-feed fertilizer?”**

I am not an advocate of those combination products. If you apply them at the time when a weedkiller is most needed, you’ll be several weeks too early with the fertilizer. If you wait until the proper time for applying fertilizer, you’ll be way too late for good weed control. Plus, some of these products do serious harm to trees and shrubs whose roots inhabit the same ground. I’m a firm believer in herbicides, also in fertilizers. But I’ve made it a practice for all of my career that I wouldn’t embrace the combination products.

I hope this helps answer some of your questions. Thank you to all that have put for the time, energy or service that keeps your landscape looking fabulous! Our neighborhood looks amazing. Happy Spring.

*Debbie Price*

Landscape Chairperson



**Newsletter Contribution?**

**Submit articles, letters and suggestions to the editor at [newsletter@hoppr.org](mailto:newsletter@hoppr.org) by April 20 for publication in the May/June issue.**