Merriman Park University Manor

Communicator

NEIGHBORHOOD COYOTE ALERT:

Take Steps Now To Protect Your Pets And Yard

Coyotes have recently been spotted in our neighborhood and have tragically claimed the lives of three pet cats thus far. All small pets are at risk so please: bring your pets inside, especially at dusk and during the night. Animal Control suggests the safer time for pets to be outside is between 10:00am and 4:00pm, although there are no guarantees during this time either.

How can you help protect the neighborhood? The city does not have the resources to eliminate all coyotes but they do pay attention to "problem coyotes" — those seen during the daytime, those that may be sick or those attacking small cats and dogs, eating food in trash cans or pet bowls, or appearing to be aggressive and fearless of people.

If you see or have seen any of this activity in our neighborhood, please send a message to **info@mpum.com.** Include the address where you observed the problem. These reports will help the city identify "problem coyotes" and pinpoint them for possible city action. If you do not have email access, you may call **Donna Mason at 214-348-7721**.

How can you keep your pets safe? Animal Control offers these tips to discourage coyotes from staying in our neighborhood:

- Keep all small pets safe at dusk and during the night by keeping them **INSIDE**.
- Do not leave pet food out at night.
- Secure food in outside trash cans.
- Do not leave feed out for wild animals, including raccoons.
- Maintain any ground cover to eliminate any rodents.
- Do not leave bird food out at night
- Report any activity you have observed in order to help us identify "Problem Coyotes"

All news will be shared via our neighborhood email list. Go to mpum.com/mailframe.html to sign up, or send your email address to info@mpum.com to be added to the list. — *Donna Mason*

Inside: A letter from our Association president, recycling news and more.

Plus: Turn to the back for full details about our Fall Festival!

The Communicator is a publication of the Merriman Park/University Manor Neighborhood Association, P.O. Box 820803, Dallas, TX 75382-0803. To contribute articles, suggestions, or letters, please contact the editor or an association officer.

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A Note From Our President

Hello neighbors! I am Valerie Carrillo, your MP/UM Neighborhood Association president for 2005-2006. First off, allow me to give you a little background of myself: I live on Whitehill St. with my husband and our daughter. We moved to MP/UM in December 2001 and we have never had any regrets! Our neighbors on our block are wonderful and we know just about every one of them. I am an attorney by day and mother by night. My husband has his own Hispanic advertising agency and is very involved in politics….day and night. He's from Dallas and I'm from San Antonio…you know who won the battle on what city to live in…. (not that I don't like Dallas, it's just that all my family is in S.A.!)

Next, I am happy to take on an exciting and challenging new year. I'd like to first welcome all of our new neighbors who have recently moved to our wonderful community. Please get involved in our association and get out and meet your neighbors…you will soon realize (if you haven't already) that MP/UM is a fantastic neighborhood to live in! You will be happy to know that our Board has met and set up our neighborhood meetings for the remainder of this fiscal year. Thank you all who came to join us at our last neighborhood association meeting on September 20, 2005. Please come out and join us for our **Fall Festival at Hotchkiss Elementary on November 15, 2005**…where you can meet new neighbors and eat great food (don't forget to bring a dish!!). Happy Holidays!!!

Finally, I am here to answer any questions you may have and work with everybody on helping make our neighborhood better than it's ever been. Please feel free to check out our neighborhood association website and email any officer with regards to any questions or concerns you may have. I hope to meet many of you soon!

Sincerely,

Valerie A. Carrillo

Email: pres@mpum.com
or write me at:
MP/UM Neighborhood Assoc.
Attn: President
P.O. Box 820803
Dallas, TX 75382-0803

What's Up: The Latest News On Sign Toppers

There's been a lot of progress since the proposal for neighborhood street sign toppers was approved at our September meeting. The signs are now at the press and should be ready by mid-November. Installation, which legally has to be done by the city, is scheduled for completion by year-end. While the cost of the signs will be lower than our original estimate, installation fees have increased since just last Fall. We're currently negotiating with the city to get a more favorable price. But there's a way you can help right now.

A contribution of only $7.50 from each household would offset the unexpected increase in installation fees. If you've driven around neighborhoods like Old Lake Highlands or even University Terrace just across Northwest Highway, you've seen how sign toppers add a strong identity to communities. That's something that all residents — and potential new homebuyers — can appreciate. To help, send your contribution to MPUM Neighborhood Association, care of Charley Ramirez, Treasurer, at P.O. Box 820803, Dallas, Texas 75382. *— Dottie Giesler*

A Whole New World Of Recycling

Now you can recycle more items in blue or clear plastic bags. And the best part? You no longer have to separate anything!

Here's what you can recycle:

- Glass (all colors)
- Plastics (#1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7)
- Newspapers, magazines, junk mail and telephone books
- Steel, tin, aerosol and aluminum cans
- Chipboard and corrugated cardboard

For recycling bags: Free blue bags are available while supplies last at Dallas recreation centers and libraries. That includes Ridgewood Recreational Center on Fisher Road.

Recycle at school: You can also recycle your newspapers at Hotchkiss Elementary.

More information: You can call city services at (214) 670-4475 or 3-1-1.

Special thanks: To Chris Stevens at Town North Bible Church for working with us on our recycling igloos. Look for an announcement soon.

Join Us November 15 For Fall Festival 2005!

It's our favorite neighborhood tradition. At Fall Festival, you can meet new neighbors, visit with friends, hear more news and enjoy a good dinner. So bring a covered dish and join the fun. It wouldn't be the same without you!

When: Tuesday, November 15, 7:00pm

Where: Hotchkiss Elementary

What: Potluck dinner with meat and lemonade provided by the MPUM Neighborhood Association. All you need to bring is your family and a covered dish.

Congratulations to Our Yards of The Month

October: 6407 Larmanda November: 6965 Wakefield

From The Neighborhood Bulletin Board: Announcements and Invitations

- Bring an object representing something you are thankful for this past year to Town North Bible Church on **Wednesday, November 23rd at 7:00pm**. It's a time to celebrate God's goodness to us all! Singing, a time to share, coffee and dessert. Nursery provided.

- Join your community in the support of the White Rock Center of Hope's Christmas Toy Drive. Bring a new unwrapped toy to Town North Bible Church on **December 11th at 10:45 AM** for our special toy donation service. Find more information at www.tnbc.org.

- Peace is Possible. This is the message of Prem Rawat, known by the honorary title Maharaji. Shannon and Jean-Paul Peretz will present a video of Prem Rawat speaking about peace and fulfillment on **December 6th at 7:00pm**. Call 469-364-9001 for details.

- Need to pay dues? You can pay at the meetings or mail your $15 to: MPUM, P.O. Box 820803, Dallas, TX 75382 or contact Treasurer Charley Ramirez at 214-341-1861.

- Plan to join us for January's Neighborhood Association meeting. This will be our Crime Watch Meeting, scheduled for **January 17** at the Northeast Police Station.