

# The Nor'westener Online

July 17, 2008

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## Neighborhood Watch for Timbergrove -West for May 2008

From the publicly available HPD Monthly Crime Report for May 2008 for TM-West (Sections 5 - 14). TM-West is in HPD's Central Division, Patrol Beat 2A60\*. The May source HPD crime report may be accessed at:

<http://www.houstontx.gov/police/cs/stats2008/may08/may082a60.htm>

Historic crime figures for 2A60 may be found

at: <http://www.houstontx.gov/police/cs/beatpages/cs2a60.htm>

5/7/08 Burglary Motor Vehicle 6400 Grovewood Ln. Day

5/20/08 Burglary 6200 Lindyann Ln. Day

5/29/08 Burglary Motor Vehicle 6500 Lindyann Ln. Day

(Day/Night indicates the time the incident was reported. The actual time of occurrence may be different.)

Now in our seventh year of tracking and reporting monthly crime totals for TM-West the eleven incidents reported so far in 2008 continues to place us well below the year-to-date pace of record years and some five incidents above our previous best low crime year – 2006. 2006 began with very minimal crime incidents, but finished with a bit of a flurry of activity in November and December that year which ultimately carried over into the relatively high total crime rate of 2007.

Long time readers can probably all teach a basic course in crime awareness and prevention so I'll not belabor you with repeating those tips this issue. Just keep doing what you are doing to keep easy targets of opportunity away from criminals.

\*The Clark Pines, Holly Park, Lazybrook, Shady Acres and Timbergrove Manor areas are all located in Patrol Beat 2A60. Crime reports for those areas may be accessed at the above links.

## From HPD Officer Carol Trautwein - July PIP - National Night Out

Hello Everyone!

I wanted to remind you all of the upcoming P.I.P. meeting to be held on July 23rd at 7 PM at 1600 State Street. Our featured speaker will be Mark Caronna from the Houston

Police Department's Mental Health Unit. I am very excited that Officer Caronna is able to speak at our meeting this month. This will be a great program. Please feel free to invite friends.

Also, I wanted to let everyone know that National Night Out has been changed from the first Tuesday in August to the first Tuesday in October, **October 7th, 2008**, 6 - 9 p.m. for TEXAS residents only. Now is the time to start planning those parties. Please contact Officer Duffy with your party information at 713-803-1151 or email [steven.duffy@cityofhouston.net](mailto:steven.duffy@cityofhouston.net) .

I hope to see you all next Wednesday!

Officer Carol Trautwein  
Ana Maria Lopez Storefront  
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(National Night Out is intended to bring neighbors together to help build a very local sense of community by simply getting to know our neighbors – both old and new - a bit better through relaxed social gatherings. If your block or part of the neighborhood has not had such a gathering in past years, you might give some thought to organizing such an informal gathering in your yard or driveway this year. Ben)

**Forwarded from Leslie Hillendahl, TM - West Neighbor**

The below e-mail was sent to me by a neighbor and friend who has lived in our neighborhood for years. This horrible incident happened to her 13 year old daughter (one of the sweetest, compassionate and most responsible young girls I have met) yesterday morning around 9:30 in our neighborhood.

Please look out for your neighbors. It is unimaginable and inexcusable that Kate walked as far as she did in our neighborhood, passing by houses and people driving by, before anyone helped her.

The details of what took place are graphic, but please read them.

Leslie Hillendahl  
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This is what occurred yesterday - July 10 -

Kate was running with our dog Fergus. She does this on a regular basis. As she was coming up Ella - just before 12th - a large truck was coming up behind her and she did not hear it. Unfortunately - Fergus did. Fergus always runs after loud noises - trucks and motorcycles - and he ran into the street. Kate desperately tried to pull him back but the truck ran over him. The truck driver did not stop. In addition, I went to the site and it is clear that the driver was driving in the bike lane as you can see exactly where the dog was since part of his guts are still on the road. I don't mean to be graphic but I'm am angry.

Here is the thing Leslie - I'm angry about the truck - driving in the bike lane and hitting the dog and not stopping - but that is the easy part of this story.

Kate immediately scooped the dog up and started screaming for someone to help her. Fergus was not dead - he was bleeding horribly - he was biting Kate and as she walked down the street screaming for help Fergus died in her arms. Again - it only gets worse. Kate continued to walk down to Grovewood (almost 2 blocks) screaming for someone to help her. She was covered in blood - and I mean covered - she was cradling our dead dog and she was screaming at the top of her lungs begging for help. No one - and I mean no one - helped her. Cars drove by and didn't stop. Neighbors were in their homes and didn't come out to see what was wrong. Kate had to start knocking on doors and asking for help. Finally - Norma Collum - answered her door and helped Kate. She called me and then she put her kids in the car and she drove Kate (still holding Fergus) to our vet. I rushed from work to meet her there. Thank God for Norma. When I got to the vet (within 10 minutes) Tricia Burda was beside herself. Kate was in such bad shape that Tricia immediately took her clothes off and dressed her in scrubs and rinsed her clothes off. Her socks were covered in blood - that's how bad it was.

So - here is why I am angry - here is why I am ASHAMED of our neighborhood. My 13 year old daughter walked down the street - covered in blood - carrying our dead dog - SCREAMING for someone to help her - and No one did. How can that be. This is not the Timbergrove that I know - and thought that I loved. I know that there are people that were in there house that heard her. They had to. I can hear people when they are walking down the street and talking.

What if someone had been trying to hurt Kate - Heaven forbid - she was crying out for someone to HELP ME - and no one did. No one helped my daughter!

I'm am mortified by the lack of response. I am ashamed of our neighborhood.

Leslie Taylor

*In response to offers of help and condolence Kate offered the following response:*

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU!!! You are so kind!!! It makes me feel so much better knowing that there is still hope and I know that not all of our neighbors did not care, I am sure many of them, if given the chance would have helped me in a heartbeat. For now I know that I loved Fergus very much and that he loved me back. He was an amazing dog and a part of me. For now I am happy to say that I'm am getting through the rough times with the help of my golden retriever Adi and cairn terrier Duffy they are also very sad at the loss of their brother. As for you generous offer, it is too soon for another dog but I do want to do something to help more animals or raise awareness among drivers everywhere. I'm currently thinking of a way to help more animals or something that the neighborhood can do that will save animals. Maybe we can have some kind of a fund raiser to raise money for the spca or something. I will of course keep thinking of ideas that can save animals and honor my dog Fergus. Once again I am

soooo thankful for you, Marcy and the collum family and all of my kind neighbors!!!  
Peace and Unconditional Love,  
Kate Taylor

**Forwarded from C. Patrick Reich Chair, Lazybrook Security**  
1700 block of Guese

On Tuesday July 15th at approximately 11:00am, a friend of a Lazybrook neighbor was visiting a home in the 1800 block of Guese when she noticed that her front license plate was missing. It is unclear when/where the plate was taken.  
A police report has been filed.

Now is a great time for a reminder: because of the rising cost of fuel, "pump and runs" are on the rise. Don't become a victim. Every time you get into your vehicle, make it a point to walk around it and make sure your plates are still there! Along with those locking fuel caps, you might also consider asking the auto parts houses for secure fasteners that can be used to prevent your plates from being easily removed.

Thanks to Brenda Brummett for alerting us to this issue last month and to the neighbors who are reporting.

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2300 block Brooktree

We received a call at 6:30 this morning alerting us to a vehicle parked in our driveway with the motor running. Neighbor was out walking her dogs when she saw all this happening.

At first the vehicle was in our front drive way on the Brooktree side of our house, and then it moved around to the Millwood side and parked in that driveway. She thought that looked very suspicious, and I would have, too. As it turned out, everything was O.K. because it was a fellow waiting for our visiting nephew. They were going to breakfast and getting ready to call on clients today.

Once again, it pays to be alert and have your cell phone with you. Neighbors taking care of neighbors is one of the things that makes Lazybrook so special.

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Remark: very well put - take care of your neighbors and they will take care of you.  
Thank you for reporting this to us.

### **Thoughts on Energy and Vehicle Tires**

With the spike in energy prices it may be timely to remind readers that maintaining the proper inflation pressures in our vehicle's tires is key to helping avoid blowouts and premature tire wear while also enhancing handling/braking control as well as maximizing fuel consumption efficiency. Tire gauges are inexpensive and easy to use, but maintaining proper tire pressure is often the most neglected aspect of vehicle maintenance. Give it some thought.

Follows are a couple of related items submitted for consideration by TM neighbors Jack Pinkerton and Fred Look. Thanks fellows!

From Jack: This is an interesting video I received and I learned a lot for when I buy a tire for my car. The garage or wherever will be surprised when I tell them I want to see the tire 'code'. I urge you all to take the time to look at this 9 minute video on tires and share with others. I'm checking mine. There is an advertisement first.

<http://abcnews.go.com/Video/playerIndex?id=4826897>

From Fred: Here's an Internet Site that may be of interest when looking for best Gasoline Prices in the Timbergrove Area.

<http://www.automotive.com/gas-prices/34/77008.html?zipcode=77008>