



Brook Meadows Messenger

The Official Publication of the Brook Meadows Homeowner's Association

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www.brookmeadows.org

November 2011

Calendar of Events

NOVEMBER LAST TUESDAY

On Holiday For The Holidays

DECEMBER - TBD

*Ladies Ornament Exchange
Susan Wilson Host*

DECEMBER - TBD

*Holiday Yard Display
Judging Volunteers Needed*

DECEMBER 10 MODEL TRAIN DISPLAY

1 pm - 6 pm

*Host: Stan Pzichalski // 4825 Lakeside Dr.
(see article inside for details)*

DECEMBER - TBD HOLIDAY PARTY

Host Volunteer Needed

DECEMBER LAST TUESDAY

On Holiday for the Holidays

JANUARY 31 LAST TUESDAY

6:30 Bizi's Wine & Cheese

313 Harwood Road, St. 101, Bedford

Not receiving the BMHA e-mail blasts? Try these two steps.

- 1.) In your email account set up, make both directors@brookmeadows.org and social@brookmeadows.org as approved senders
- 2.) go to www.brookmeadows.org home page and fill out the "E-MAIL ADDRESS - CLICK HERE" link

TO VOLUNTEER - CONTACT

Directors@BrookMeadows.org

"My Virtual Neighbor"

New Social Media Reduces Neighborhood Crime By 80%!

HOUSTON, Sept. 28, 2011 /PRNewswire/ -- My Virtual Neighbor is the first social network site proven to reduce crime in communities live on it by 80% as neighbors interact, claims founder Amit Mehta.

"As the first social network service focusing on forming ties and encouraging interactions based on common interest, it helps people to get to know each other and keeps everyone well informed on what was going on in and around their neighborhood in real time," says Mehta, who is also behind Moblize.com.

According to Mehta, My Virtual Neighbor concept is the cornerstone of the highly publicized "National Night Out" program which lets criminals know that neighbors are organized and fighting back. Something policing experts have known and encouraged for a long time – increasing communication between neighbors (people who live nearby you) is a great crime deterrent.

Case studies conducted on block 3000-3099 Sage road, communities, located in Houston, Texas Galleria area, have shown that after 10 weeks of MVN's release, crime rates dropped by over 80% in the area. Source: HPD reports block 3000-3099 Sage Road <http://www.houstontx.gov/police/cs/stats2.htm>

Being different from social media sites like Facebook and Yahoo groups, Mehta said My Virtual Neighbor is now showing positive impact in society by reducing crime in communities.

With its sight set on neighborhoods this new site is now defining a new kind of relations that get people to know new people who are interested in creating stronger communities.

Another point of interest here is that My Virtual Neighbor includes enhanced privacy controls and verification mechanisms to build trust with your neighbors, unlike Yahoo and Facebook groups, giving people greater sense of security knowing that here (at My Virtual Neighbor) they can be moderators themselves as opposed to someone else watching over them.

My Virtual Neighbor, according to Mehta, is focused on creating "our" network based on common interest, for instance, neighborhood versus Facebook which is "my" network.

"There's no mistake about it, we have proven beyond a shadow of a doubt that the site not only help reduce crime, but it has proven to build ties with new people - people you don't know, but who share a common interest in your neighborhood or community," said Mehta.

Unlike Facebook that relies on an odd notion of friendship... yes, we know those people that we connect with but are they friends? Only the ones we speak to anyway. Now that a social network that's revolved around neighbors - people who feel certain guilt about not knowing each other better, we are now looking at a more interesting dynamic – and a network driven by an unmet need.

"What more could we do if the folks in our communities could easily connect and communicate? The answer lies with this new social network, My Virtual Neighbor, whose aim is to find out what happens when

Brook Meadows

ASSOCIATION INFO

**Brook Meadows
Homeowners Association, Inc.**
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Please visit our website often: www.BrookMeadows.org

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*Our thanks to outgoing Board Members,
Ricky Stephenson, Kevin Haynes and Shelley Haaker.*

*Say Hello to your incoming Board Members,
Rich Shreder, Roger Poirier and Tom Kader.*

NEWSLETTER INFO

PUBLISHER

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Personal classifieds (one time sell items, such as a used bike...) run at no charge to Brook Meadows residents, limit 30 words, please e-mail erc.editor@yahoo.com

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ONLINE**

*Do You Have Reason
to Celebrate?*

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Come See the Trains!

*The 14th Annual
Pirzchalski Holiday Open House*

Saturday, December 10th

1 pm - 6 pm

4832 Lakeside Drive

Colleyville, TX 76034 Brook Meadows

SEE THE MDAK HO MODEL RAILROAD IN ACTION!

The MDAK RR is 67' x 27' is designed for children of all ages! Walk the perimeter and find monkeys, cats, dogs and various animals & people. Listen to the sounds cattle, pigs, sheep & chickens. See & hear big steam locomotives as they strain to climb mountain grades.

COOKIES AND DRINKS PROVIDED

In the spirit of the Christmas season this is our neighborhood charitable event for GRACE. Please bring a child's unwrapped toy if possible. There is no obligation! Your generosity is greatly appreciated by those less fortunate.

SUGGESTED TOY ITEMS:

Arts & Craft Sets, Board Games, Building Blocks, Card Games, Hand Held Video Games, Jewelry Making Sets, Lego's, Play Dough, Puzzles, Silly Putty, Slinky, Tinker Toys, Trucks or Cars, Yo-Yo's.

We wish each of you a very Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.



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