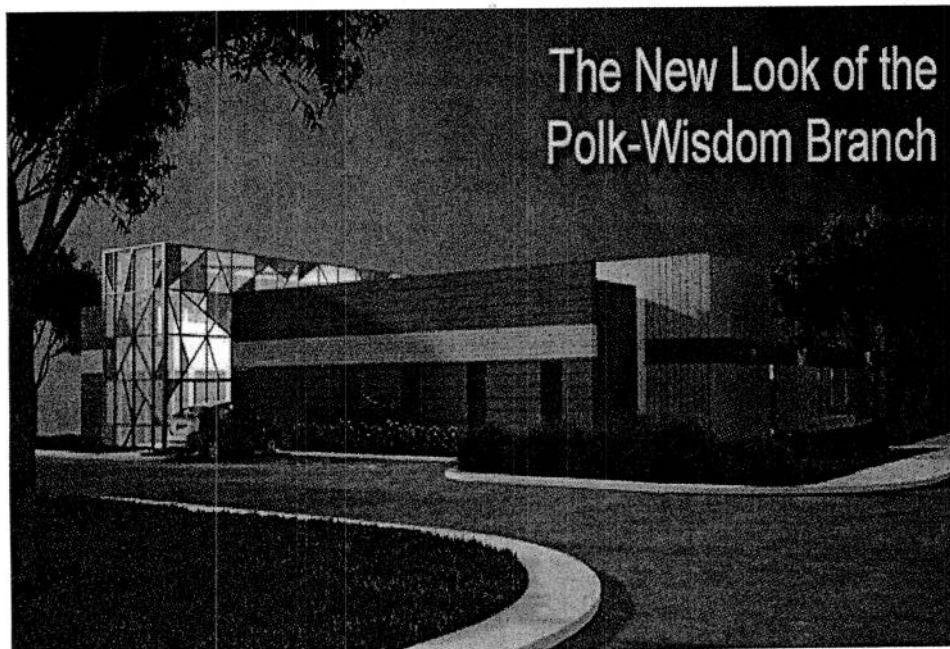


# NEWSLETTER

## The Newly Remodeled Polk-Wisdom Branch Library Is Now Open



The New Look of the Polk-Wisdom Branch

I had the honor of attending the grand opening of the newly remodeled 16,800 square foot Polk-Wisdom Branch library located at the intersection of South Polk and Camp Wisdom on April 13, 2013. This new library was due to be completed by December 2012 but it was well worth the wait. Some of the new features include

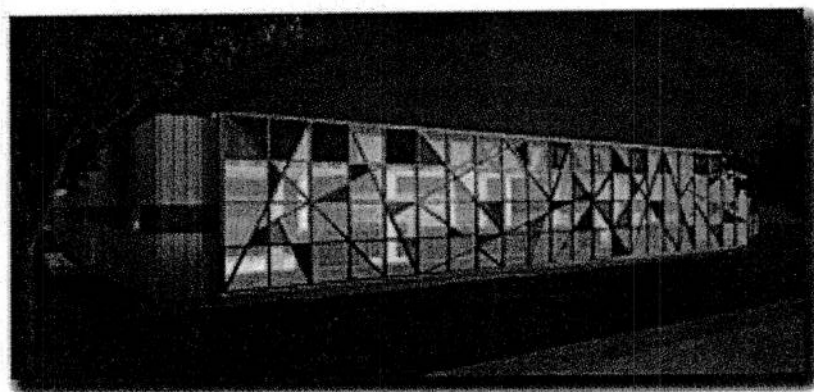
- 61 parking spaces (now on level concrete)
- public meeting space that seats 98 with a kitchenette and restrooms that can be accessed after-hours
- classroom space
- 2 mobile study room spaces
- 45,000 volumes of books and media
- separate service areas for adults, teens and children
- Computer workstations for children and adults
- Free wireless access

Overall, I loved the clean, modern feel and I couldn't get my children to leave without a fight. That says a lot!

7151 Library Lane, Dallas, 75232  
(214) 670-1947  
polkwisdom@dallaslibrary.org

Mon and Sun: Closed  
Tues and Thurs: 12p-8p  
Wed, Fri and Sat: 10a-6p

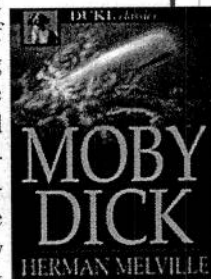
-A. Johnson



### The Next Generation Experience

A couple of years ago, my husband discovered this gem. The Dallas Public Library has made it possible to download eBooks, audiobooks, videos and music to your computer, tablet or wireless device instead of having to go to the library and physically check it out. When checking out digital material, you have the option to keep the material for 7, 14 or 21 days.

They offer a wide variety of books including classics like *Moby Dick* and *The Secret Garden* to autobiography's like *Dreams of My Father* by Barack Obama. All you need is a current library card and a means to download Overdrive to your computer and/or device. For more information, you can visit



<http://dallaslibrary.lib.overdrive.com/>

-A. Johnson

## Crime Prevention Tips

### Preventing Burglary of a Motor Vehicle

As a crime of opportunity, burglaries of motor vehicles are decreasing in Dallas, but remain a problem for both citizens and law enforcement.

#### **BMV from a Criminal's Viewpoint:**

- **Wide Variety of Merchandise.** A vast array of property is left inside parked vehicles. Laptop computers, cell phones, GPS devices, aftermarket car stereo systems, video systems (often mounted in headrests), even purses and wallets, just scratches the surface of the variety of "window shopping" goodies criminals feast upon.
- **Easy Shopping.** It takes less than a minute to break a vehicle's window, unlock the door, and remove items left inside. Most of the time, there are no witnesses to these offenses because of the ease and speed.
- **Low Risk.** In Texas, BMV is a misdemeanor offense, meaning less time behind bars. Only on the third conviction does BMV become a felony.
- **Hard to be caught.** Because thieves often pick vehicles parked in secluded spots, dark areas, and avoid crowded areas, there is often no witness to BMV offenses.
- **Easy to Convert Stolen Items to Cash.** This can trip up a burglar IF items stolen are marked (or serial numbers recorded), and these numbers are reported to police. In Dallas, pawn shops are required to record the names of persons pawning merchandise. If a serial number of a stolen piece of property is identified, it is easy to identify the suspect who pawned it. Unfortunately, the vast majority of property stolen is not marked, or the serial numbers are not recorded, and the property is never identified as stolen.

#### **What You can do to help from becoming a victim:**

- **Take, Lock, Hide.** The basic crime fighting tool to preventing BMV.
- **Lock your vehicle.** Yes, it takes seconds to break a window, but doing so makes noise – and criminals hate making noise. Also, officers report that in many instances where a victim left their vehicle unlocked (to prevent windows from being broken); the suspect broke the window anyway, expecting the vehicle to be locked.
- **Hide valuables from sight, or, even better, take items with you.** If a criminal doesn't see anything, they're less likely to break in, and will go to the next vehicle and window shop. Remember to hide valuables BEFORE you park in the place you're leaving your vehicle. If a criminal sees you put a laptop in the trunk, they'll just break into the trunk when you leave. Same advice for putting property under a seat. If a criminal sees you reaching under a seat, they'll assume something is under there, and break in, looking for property.
- **Park in areas that are not secluded.** Well lit parking lots, with good "sight lines", make it more likely your vehicle is visible to the general public. Attended parking lots, monitored by uniformed or easily identifiable legitimate parking attendants, are ideal. Remember, criminals don't like witnesses.
- **After market car stereos; consider models with removable faceplates.** Take the faceplate with you when you leave your vehicle.
- **Record serial numbers of property you may leave inside your vehicle.** If stolen, it makes it more likely the suspect, if he tries to pawn, will be identified.

Remember, there is no 100% fool-proof way to prevent all crime. You can make yourself less likely to be a victim of BMV by following the above tips, and by using common sense. Simply locking your vehicle and removing property from inside is half the battle. Remember that YOU are an important partner in the fight against crime.

#### **FAST FACT**

There is a way to check on the crime stats on a weekly basis for our beat 741 and the surrounding beats by visiting <http://www.dallaspolice.net/dpd/crimereport.html>. Click on **28 Beat Report (Weekly)**.

According to the Weekly 28 Beat Report, we have had 16 home burglaries, 28 motor vehicle burglaries, and 13 "other" thefts in our beat and surrounding beats 723, 454, 742, and 743. I think you would be shocked to find out how many other crimes are committed in our area, including aggravated assault, robbery, theft and even murder. We have the facts. The question is, what can we do as a community to prevent these crimes from happening to us?

-[www.dallaspolice.net/](http://www.dallaspolice.net/)

## When neighbors start talking, good things happen

Some of your neighbors have already experienced the benefits! Nextdoor™ is a neighborhood social website that allows you to stay connected to your neighbors and your community with a click of the mouse. Here are some key benefits from the website.

- **Build a stronger neighborhood**

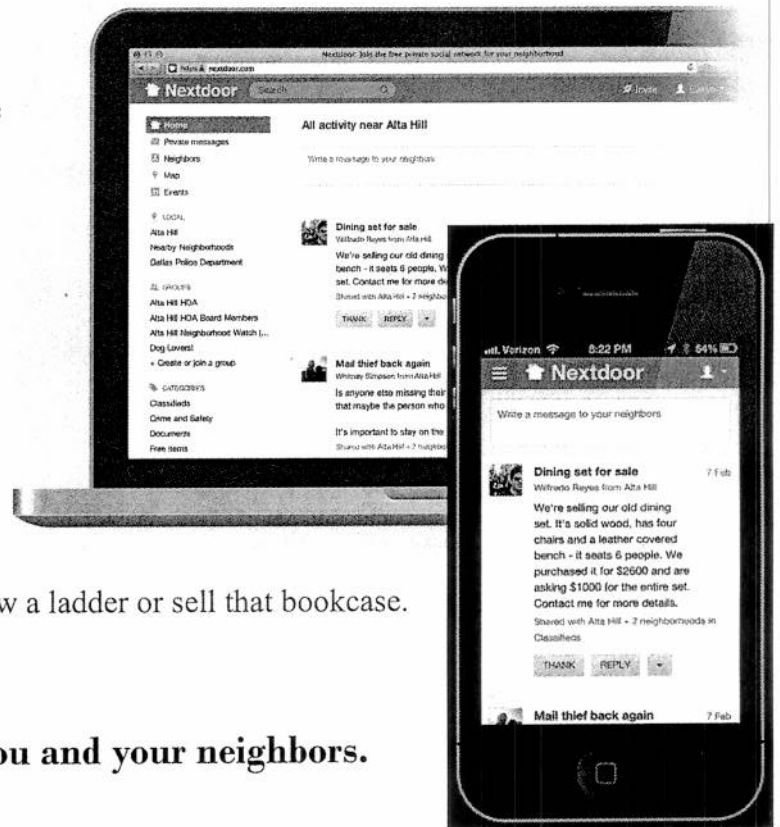
Connect with your neighbors to stay informed and share useful local information.

- **Keep the neighborhood safe**

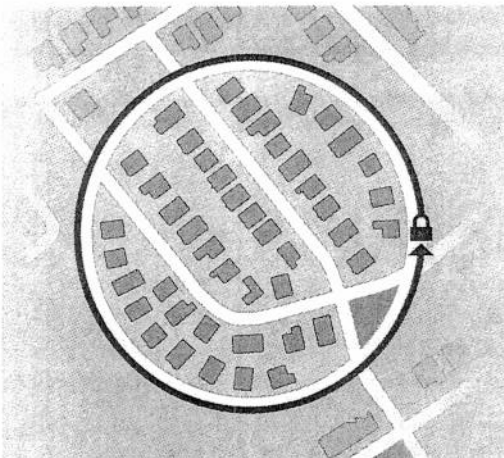
Look out for each other and send updates to keep the neighborhood safe.

- **Share good and recommendations**

Find a great babysitter or trusty dentist. Borrow a ladder or sell that bookcase.



## A private environment designed just for you and your neighbors.



- **Password-protected websites**

Each website is password-protected and not accessible by search engines.

- **Only real neighbors allowed**

Each member must verify their address to join so you know you can trust who you are sharing with.

- **Your personal information is safe**

We will never share your information with third parties.



## We are here when you need us! Officers and Committee Leaders

### **President-- Doshie Tanner**

(214) 376-0519

For any questions or concerns regarding the Southern Hills Association and if you are interested in volunteering.

### **Vice President - Mr. Benny Smith**

(214) 376-0519

For any question or concern regarding the Southern Hills Association and if you are interested in volunteering.

### **Beautification- Myrtle Robinson**

(214) 375-0269

Contact Myrtle if you are interested in joining the beautification committee and/or would like to share an idea about how to keep our neighborhood beautiful.

### **VP of Communications- Amanda Johnson**

(469) 556-3822

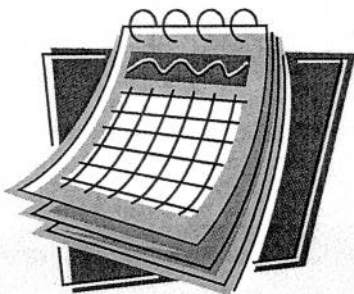
shnanews@gmail.com

Contact Amanda with any information or questions regarding the newsletter, to sign up for e-news, or report news or a new event coming up.

### **CODE- Gloria Johnson**

(214) 371-1546

Downed tree limbs, high grass, parked cars on the street, etc...is or call 311.



### **Important Dates**

April 30 @ 7:00pm

Neighborhood Meeting  
Mark Twain Elementary School  
**Bring a neighbor with you!!**

### **SHNA Crime Watch Notification Hotline**

469-619-(STOP)7867

### **Safety and Crime Watch- Lincoln Rolling**

(214) 375-6010

shnacrimewatch@gmail.com

If you have crime or safety emergency, dial 911. If you have a concern or idea, contact Lincoln.

### **Neighborhood Relations- Eula Deloney**

(214) 372-4338

Let us know if you are ill, know someone who is ill, or have lost a family member. Share the good news about new marriages, new births, and other events we can celebrate with you. We would like to do what we can and let you know we care.

### **Membership & Dues- LeAnn Windsor**

(214) 374-6915

If you need to pay your dues, the cost is \$15.00 per household a year (Jan to Jan). It's never too late to pay and you can pay anytime of the year.

## NOTICE

The VP of Communications is looking for new committee members to give their ideas and editorial skills for the quarterly newsletter and all other communications. Please email Amanda at shnanews@gmail.com or call at 469-556-3822 if you are interested.

We also need people to volunteer to coordinate neighborhood activities. If you love to plan and talk to people, we could use your help.

If you are interested in volunteering in any other area of our association, you can contact the officer, committee head or the president to sign up!