



# The Joys of the Big Snow!

**Annual Spring Fling**

**Saturday, March 28th 4-6 pm**

**8238 San Benito Way**

**[www.foresthillsdallas.org](http://www.foresthillsdallas.org)**



*Rebecca Hodge and Emory Foerster of Santa Clara decided to create additional manpower for our men in blue!*

## On the Positive Side

### KEEP THE MOMENTUM GOING!

When crime is down, we tend to have a false sense of security and ease up our guard. All around us crime is escalating and it is even more important to continue our support of the successful Forest Hills Security program (FHSP).

FHSP has made Forest Hills a safer place to live with its police patrolling, preventing and protecting. Our off-duty officers, linked to the main police station have developed an even closer connection and dedication to us through the years.

FHSP has also given the neighborhood valuable safety and crime prevention knowledge. Our residents have become more aware and are calling 911 with accurate details regarding anyone or anything suspicious. In fact Forest Hills is used over and over again as an example of what can happen when residents work together with the police to prevent and solve crime.

**PLEASE PLEDGE THIS FIRST QUARTER FOR CONTINUED PROTECTION!**

## Tips From a Neighbor

Pull out your Texas Driver's License, turn to the backside and read the very fine print just above the bar code label. It says: "Texas Roadside Assistance 1-800-525-5555." If you call the number, what do you get? A Roadside Assistance Hotline for reporting non-life threatening situations on Texas roads and highways. The level of service depends, in part, on the city you are in. But, in general, this number can be used to report being stranded due to car problems, to request a tow truck, and to report hazardous road conditions, debris in the road, suspicious activity in a rest area, or obviously intoxicated or dangerous drivers. Some Texas cities (*e.g. Dallas*) will, in some instances, be able to dispatch someone to help change a tire or deliver gasoline or jump start your vehicle.

Want your sprinkler system evaluated for free? Call 214-202-1862. The Dallas Water Department will send a trained representative to your home to inspect your sprinkler system, check the timing settings, measure the amount of water it distributes, and then make recommendations regarding the timing and duration of sprinkling activities based on the unique watering needs of your property. The representative will advise regarding the best types of sprinkler heads to use for different situations."

## FHNA Board Meeting Recap

What will remain a priority this year for the FHNA board is fund raising and dues collection. The past two years have been good years in terms of available funds, but the this neighborhood is in jeopardy of falling behind if neighbors don't pay dues. Comparatively, FH dues are very low. Many surrounding neighborhood associations ask for much more from their residents. No doubt, the lapse in leadership several years ago, when no FHNA board was seated, caused problems. No dues were collected for a period stretching over three years. Any funds collected prior to those years had been exhausted.

This year, 2010, the board is getting creative with the "ask" Residents of FH have to feel they are getting something for their money. Ideally, an operating budget of \$20,000.00 would be optimal. Using a "grass roots" approach, marketing block by block for collection may be the answer. Busy schedules and no real enforcement options are two reasons residents forget about dues. Most who do contribute do so gladly knowing the FHNA is working on their behalf.

The Garland Road Garden District project, The White Rock Lake Foundation, and others are reasons to stay invested in your neighborhood. Development projects are being proposed around and near the very perimeter of the FH neighborhood. Thus, the importance of a strong, aligned body of residents. Too much is happening in and around FH to ignore it. Although money generated from dues is not used directly to thwart or ward off city development attempts, it's helpful to have coffers lined in the event of any major effort needed to maintain the quality of life that exists in FH.

Other FHNA priorities are maintenance of existing green space, monitoring of city imposed services, ongoing beautification of FH, fund raising, and recruiting quality leadership to the FHNA board.

# Just One Day (Recycling and Trash Pick-Up)



The city of Dallas is streamlining its public services. It is important for all FH residents to note the following changes in recycling and trash pick-up set to begin March 1, 2010. The website to obtain information helpful to each household is: [www.onedaydallas.com](http://www.onedaydallas.com). If you have questions and need to speak to someone, use the call center @ 214-671-8877. The website also contains information regarding where to place your discarded items. That link is: <http://www.onedaydallas.com/alleycurb.html>.

*Stay informed!*



## Cop Cars Everywhere You Look What's the Deal?



Have you noticed a substantial "increase" in police units and constable vehicles trolling Garland road? I began wondering if east Dallas were under some kind of crime siege meriting

this high concentration of police units. If you traverse the Garland road corridor on your way to and from work no doubt, you have been witness to flashing lights pulling over some drivers. What's the deal? The deal is this. There is a crime ring making counterfeit state inspection stickers and the cops set up a "sting" operation to catch them. For a period of roughly nine days they were pulling over cars right and left checking the inspection stickers on all vehicles. And, it's not over. Police plan to concentrate on the east Dallas area for the entire month of February. Look at the bright side, we should all feel safer with this many police in and near our community.

## Census Takers in Forest Hills

A grass roots effort is underway to count every single person in Dallas. Imagine the task. Sounds fairly impossible. This year, an extensive census campaign launched by the city is making headlines everywhere. Hopes are high, with this marketing explosion and extra staffing, no one person will be missed. The city is marketing directly to HOA's (home owner associations) all over the city asking for help in getting the



information out. We are doing our part. Included in this edition of "The Reporter", there is news you can use! Information for you to follow and make sure everyone in your household is counted. Stay in touch, and stay informed.

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Jan and Mark Welp - Hannah

# Who is YOUR Block Captain?

The FHNA board cannot express enough gratitude for our block captains. They are the unsung soldiers that long ago decided their contribution to FH would be to deliver newsletter and other important information down the blocks. We want to make sure you know who YOUR captain is. If you need anything, you may contact your captain. They can direct you to a board member or perhaps give you answers to your questions, especially if you are new to FH neighborhood. Use the following list to locate your block and your captain.

## FOREST HILLS BLVD.

8100 Mary Pat Smith  
8200 Josy Collins  
8300 Kathy Glenn  
8400 Karen Hess  
8500 Rick Sorrells

## GARLAND ROAD

8100 Carolyn Jones  
8200 LuAnn Tunell  
8300 Joan Shopoff  
8400/8500 Judi Boyles

## GROVELAND

8500 Debbie Knight

## CORDAY

1700 Debbie Knight

## HIGHLAND ROAD

1300-1500 Noel Ellison

## SAN BENITO WAY

8100 Susan Bailey  
8200 Patty Goya  
8300 Jeanne Dooley

8400/8500 Mary Pruessel

## SAN CRISTOBAL DRIVE

8000 Barbara Delabano  
8100 Kelly Miller  
8200 Molly Grogan  
8300 Mari Anne Mouer

## SAN FERNANDO WAY

8100 Debbie Jenevein  
8200 Gina Bender  
8300 Mary Deighton  
8400 Jo Kirksey  
8500 Sue Benner

## SAN LEANDRO DRIVE

8000-8100 Marvel Kiewit  
8200 Eileen Grass  
8300 Kelly Kemp  
8400 Dorinda Breeland  
8500 Katrina Moran

## SAN PEDRO PARKWAY

8400 Abbie Meyering  
8500 Diana Cox

## SAN RAFAEL DRIVE

1200 Carolyn Jones  
1400-1607 Kathy Wall

## SANTA CLARA DRIVE

8100 Martine Buhmann  
8200 Vicki Burns  
8300 Pat Colacecchi  
8400 Barbara Michaels  
8500 Alise Platt

## ST. FRANCIS

1600 Mary Pruessel  
(8400 block of San Benito)

## WHITTIER AVE

1500 Diana Cox  
(8500 block San Pedro)  
1700 Andie Comini

## Eustis Ave.

8500 Andie Comini

## Tribute to a Neighbor - Paul Pedersen

— by Josephine Brown



**February 7, 1946 – September 10, 2009**

Forest Hills lost a wonderful neighbor in Paul Pedersen (8300 block of San Cristobal), who was known by so many as simply “Paul the Handyman”.

Melanoma took its toll on the afternoon of September 10th, 2009. There was a rush of wind with a huge clap of thunder the moment he left. His wife, Trish said it was just like him to leave with a bang.

Calls are still coming in from clients requesting his help. Paul, being bigger than life with his craggy Santa Claus appearance, could appear gruff, but his clear blue eyes gave away his strong yet gentle nature. Typical of Paul, his generosity would not allow him to charge his immediate neighbors for any work he did for them.

He led an interesting life. Having been a marine who served in Vietnam, his funeral was attended by an honor guard and there was not a dry eye during the folding of the flag ceremony. He worked with the British consulate as an attaché. He owned an oil company before the oil crash and was voted small businessman of the year. He played racquetball, collected eagles and clocks. Being an avid reader he had interests in many things. He was an inventor, who could fix anything and being a true worker, he was constantly busy with projects. One of the most endearing things about him was his love for cats. Someone once said, “Cats are true judges of character.” His cats loved him. Of the eight that allowed Paul and Trish to live with them, one still looks and calls for him.

We miss seeing Paul’s truck driving off to help yet another person, with its motto “If You Can’t Do It Yourself The Handyman Can.” But most of all we miss our neighbor’s lovely spirit!

# Making Memories Holiday Tree Lighting

*Special Thanks to Tamela Southan and Shelly Clem*

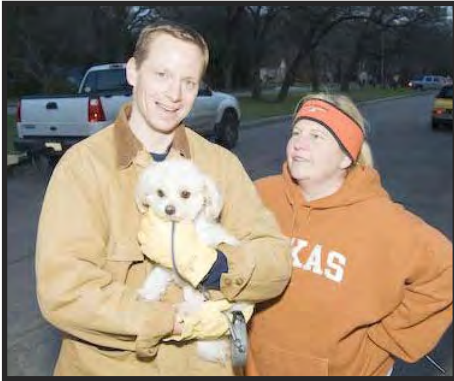


Photo Credits: Kara Name



# SECURITY PAGE



## THINGS YOUR BURGLAR WON'T TELL YOU

1. Of course I look familiar. I was here just last week cleaning your carpets, painting your shutters, or delivering your new refrigerator.
2. Hey, thanks for letting me use the bathroom when I was working in your yard last week. While I was in there, I unlatched the back window to make my return a little easier.
3. Yes, I really do look for newspapers piled up on the driveway. And I might leave a pizza flyer in your front door to see how long it takes you to remove it.
4. If it snows while you're out of town, get a neighbor to create car and foot tracks into the house. Virgin drifts in the driveway are a dead giveaway. Or have them park one of their cars in your driveway and move it around once in awhile.
5. If decorative glass is part of your front entrance, don't let your alarm company install the control pad where I can see if it's set. That makes it too easy.
6. A good security company alarms the window over the sink. And the windows on the second floor, which often access the master bedroom-and your jewelry. It's not a bad idea to put motion detectors up there too.
7. It's raining, you're fumbling with your umbrella, and you forget to lock your door — understandable. But understand this: I don't take a day off because of bad weather.
8. I always knock first. If you answer, I'll ask for directions somewhere or offer to clean your gutters. (Don't take me up on it.)
9. Do you really think I won't look in your sock drawer? I always check dresser drawers, the bedside table, and the medicine cabinet.
10. Here's a helpful hint: I almost never go into little kids' rooms.
11. You're right: I won't have enough time to break into that safe where you keep your valuables. But if it's not bolted down, I'll take it with me.
12. A loud TV or radio can be good deterrent. If you're reluctant to leave your TV on while you're out of town, you can buy a \$35 device that works on a timer and simulates the flickering glow of a real television. (Find it at [faketv.com](http://faketv.com).)
13. Sometimes, I carry a clipboard. Sometimes, I dress like a lawn guy and carry a rake. I do my best to never, ever look like a crook.
14. The two things I hate most: loud dogs and nosy neighbors.
15. I'll break a window to get in, even if it makes a little noise. If your neighbor hears one loud sound, he'll stop what he's doing and wait to hear it again. If he doesn't hear it again, he'll just go back to what he was doing. It's human nature.
16. I'm not complaining, but why would you pay all that money for a fancy alarm system and leave your house without setting it?
17. I love looking in your windows. I'm looking for signs that you're home and for flat screen TVs or gaming systems I'd like. I'll drive or walk through your neighborhood at night, before you close the blinds, just to pick my targets.
18. Avoid announcing your vacation on your Facebook page. It's easier than you think to look up your address.
19. To you, leaving that window open just a crack during the day is a way to let in a little fresh air. To me, it's an invitation.
20. If you don't answer when I knock, I try the door. Occasionally, I hit the jackpot and walk right in.

Sources: *Convicted burglars in North Carolina, Oregon, California, and Kentucky*; security consultant Chris McGoey, who runs [crimedoctor.com](http://crimedoctor.com); and Richard T. Wright, a criminology professor at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, who interviewed 105 burglars for his book *Burglars on the Job*.



TAKE A BITE OUT OF  
**CRIME**

### THE FOREST HILLS SECURITY PROGRAM Resident Funded Off-Duty Dallas Police Patrol

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# PAWS PAGE



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*Bark Less*



*Wag More*



*Pet Photo of the Month  
Baby LooChia*

## Microchipping Gets Pets Home!

Amanda, of East Dallas Veterinary Clinic on Ferguson, told me that a client was doing all she could to help a poor starving cold cat come to her. After many weeks the cat finally allowed this loving woman to touch him/her. As soon as she had the cat in her grip, off to the vet to have it checked out. It turned out to be a neutered male cat. Since someone had gone to the trouble to neuter it, perhaps there was a microchip too? Yes! So Amanda placed a call to the person listed as the owner of the cat. The owner, in Little Forest Hills, said their cat had been missing for over 6 months and they had given up hope of ever seeing it again. Apparently in the 6 months the cat had traveled a pretty good distance from one neighborhood to another and across busy streets.

The family came up to the clinic and the cat just ran to their open arms! Amanda said it was one of the best reunions yet! All had smiles and tears of joy!

So the simple act of microchipping united this family once again!

### **FH ANIMAL ALERT! PROGRAM**

To report a Lost or Found Animal 214-930-5910

Animal Control Call 311

## Honor Your Pet

Sixteen years ago a friend of mine found a kitten in the road hit by a car. My wonderful friend, Michelle, scooped up the kitten and took her to her vet who had to amputate the kitten's back leg.

My friend has rescued animals all her life and could not take in another, especially one who would need so much attention. Michelle appealed to my Aunt Pat, who also had a houseful, but agreed. Prissy became the love of Aunt Pat's life sleeping in the crook of her arm every night.

Prissy, whom we called Tripod behind her back, died last month. I needed a very special way to honor Prissy for my Aunt Pat and Michelle. A contribution to our neighborhood Animal Alert was the perfect choice. The card and poem Maeleska sent Aunt Pat acknowledging my contribution brought her to tears. She called me and told me though she lives in North Dallas, our Animal Alert is now on her list to help.

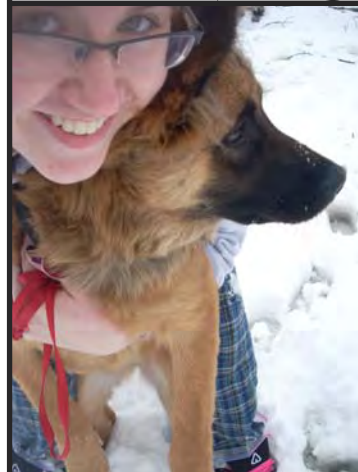
We are all so devastated when we loose a treasured fur member of our family. Please consider honoring your or someone else's loved one with a contribution in your 'hood' to this wonderful program. Make checks to:

**LFH Animal Alert!**

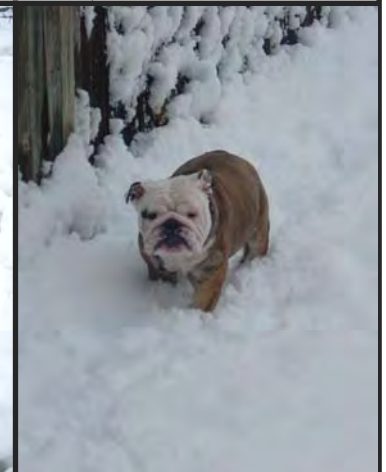
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[info@lfhanimalalert.org](mailto:info@lfhanimalalert.org)

## Pet Snow Pics



Andrea & Coco



Diva

# Santa Clara Cookie Exchange It's Tradition!!!



Isn't it great to know that right here, in our neighborhood, on an given weekend and/or holiday, there are social events. Events drawing good crowds of neighbors sharing and keeping in touch. Many of these events have become annual traditions. One such tradition is the annual Santa Clara Christmas cookie exchange. The photos tell the story. Women, conversation and baking. Not just a



dozen cookies but this year the ante was upped to six dozen. In one particularly ambitious year, the request from the lead hostess called for every woman to bake ten dozen cookies. That is a lot of cookies! If you've never been privy to such an event, it works like this. You bake six dozen cookies. Place them on the central table at the home of the hostess. Large trays are given to each lady who then rounds the table and selects six dozen new cookies lovingly made by the other women. Needless to say, it's not the kind of event you want to miss. This is your one chance to get up to speed on the lives of your neighbors and leave with delicious homemade confections. This year's host home was that of Meredith Zapata, 8169 Santa Clara.

## SNOW, SNOW, SNOW!!!

*by Debbie Knight*





# Garden Club News

## SAVE THE DATE!!!

The 9th Annual White Rock East Garden and Artisans Tour will be held this year on Sunday May 23rd from 11 - 5. The proceeds from this tour benefit our beautification efforts here in Forest Hills. We partner with Little Forest Hills and Casa Linda Estates and feature nine gardens, three from each neighborhood. In addition all of the artists who participate are from the three neighborhoods. While this is a fundraiser for us it is more importantly a great way to meet our East Dallas neighbors and support our local artists!

There are many volunteer opportunities available. Call Barb Michaels 214-327-3817 ([bmjtd@tx.rr.com](mailto:bmjtd@tx.rr.com)) or Lottie Minnick 214-320-3868 ([lottiek@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lottiek@sbcglobal.net)) for more information.



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The Forest Hills Garden Club met on Thursday evening January 14th at the home of Lottie Minick. For the past several years we have dedicated this meeting to a post holiday garden gift exchange. Lots of fun was had by all! We will return to serious gardening topics in February. Please check out the Forest Hills website for dates and times. Please join us!

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR



**Neoma Twining**  
Newsletter Editor

*Question:* Some residents on San Fernando just got power back on yesterday, and there do seem to be frequent power outages in the neighborhood. We are usually fine in this block of San Benito, but neighbors on Santa Clara and elsewhere aren't. Is the HOA interested in looking into or assessing the frequency of outages? Just a suggestion.

*Kara Name*

*Editor's response:* Yes. We have been aware of this problem for years. The city's response in addition to power company is that due to the age of the homes in Forest Hills and the antiquated wiring this will continue to be a problem until they come up with a system to remedy. Lakewood and Lake Highlands neighborhoods experience the same issues and its very frustrating. The city is looking into possibility of burying electrical and phone wires in the future. But that is the future.

## Sanger News

### Hi Everyone!

REAL School Gardens will be at Sanger on February 24th from 4-6 hosting a reception celebrating the new garden and they would love for you to come. This is open to the public!

A light dinner will be served and a tour of the garden will be held as well. There will be REAL School Staff on hand to explain their vision and answer any questions about the program of volunteering.

Please see the link below for more information [www.realschoolgardens.org](http://www.realschoolgardens.org). Go to events then down to Feb. 24th where you will find Sanger information!



# WELCOME NEWCOMERS

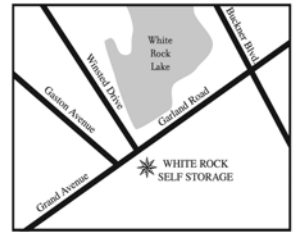
8500 BLOCK OF SAN FERNANDO WAY  
Lalon and Pam Peale

We apologize if we have overlooked anyone. Newcomers can be missed when move-in is delayed for remodeling or when a home is purchased directly from builder or previous owner. Our info comes from MLS Real Estate listings. For any oversights, please contact Judy Whalen 214 535-2077 [jwreps@earthlink.net](mailto:jwreps@earthlink.net) with addresses and/or names so we can give our new neighbors a Woodsy Welcome and a Guide Book to Forest Hills!

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## Don't Get Complacent

When crime is down, we tend to have a false sense of security and ease up our guard. All around us crime is escalating and it is even more important to continue our support of the successful Forest Hills Security program (FHSP). FHSP has made Forest Hills a safer place to live with its police patrolling, preventing and protecting. Our off-duty officers, linked to the main police station have developed an even closer connection and dedication to us through the years. FHSP has also given the neighborhood valuable safety and crime prevention knowledge. Our residents have become more aware and are calling 911 with accurate details regarding anyone or anything suspicious. In fact Forest Hills is used over and over again as an example of what can happen when residents work together with the police to prevent and solve crime.

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*Forest Hills resident and  
neighbor for 17 years.*



**Kathy Wall**  
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## Want to be More Green?

The FHNA is entertaining many requests from green businesses. In our quest to provide residents with information about how to make their homes more energy efficient, we will continue to talk and discuss ways to help our neighbors. If you are needing more information on how to make your home more green, check our website [www.foresthillsdallas.org](http://www.foresthillsdallas.org) often!

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***-Vicky Faircloth  
Former Forest Hills resident***

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**Vicki White** homes.com

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If you know anyone interested in a fabulous Forest Hills home, check out my new listing at **8014 San Leandro**. It is a 3 bedroom, 2 bath-total renovation for \$359,000.