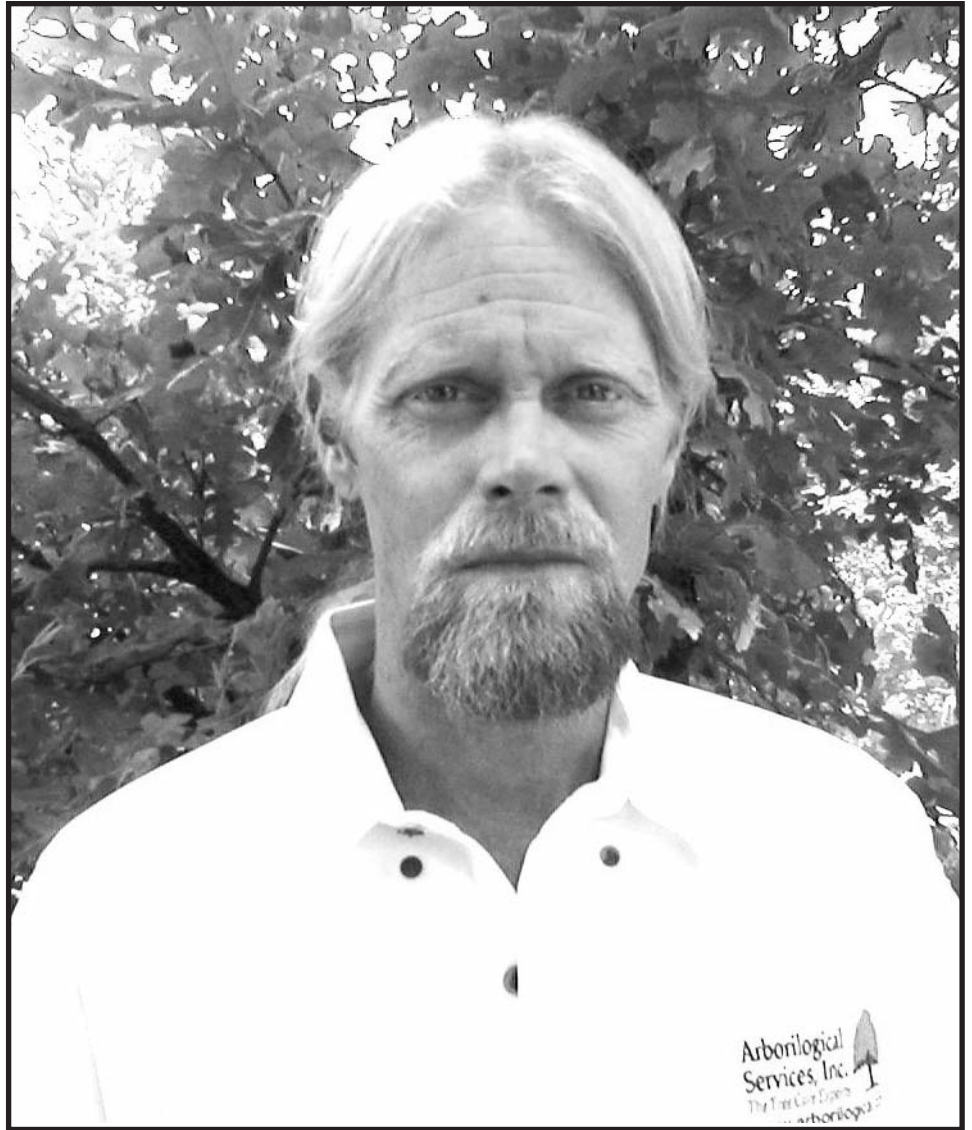




Annual Seniors Tea
Sunday, October 11th 3-5 pm
8516 San Leandro Drive
(more information inside!)

The Reporter

JULY - AUGUST 2009 ISSUE



Steve Houser

Who is This Man?

**He is Forest Hills
New Arborist**

Developers Killing Our Trees?



I took a picture of this construction site a couple of years ago when this house was built and you published it in the newsletter. The construction workers drove on the tree roots and built a container for waste right in between these two trees. Now the two trees are dead. It may be that the weight of these McMansions kill the trees? If so the builders should be required to replace them. There are more dead trees in the neighborhood but people are living in those houses so I didn't want to take a picture. Just makes me both sad and angry!

Many other "McMansion" trees have suffered similarly. Little, if any, effort is being made by builders to protect or replace these giants that require a quarter-century, at least, to reach this height.

Queen of the Web

One of the best parts of serving on the board and committees of the FHNA are the relationships formed. We recruit anyone and everyone to aid in making this neighborhood a better place to live. One such neighbor is Sharon Hill, our current Webmaster. She is too shy to lend me her photo, so you might recognize her. But she is talented. Very talented in all things web, computer, facebook, twitter, etc. related. Talk about timing. Her skill set is in big demand these days. That is exactly why we count on her to keep the FH website interactive. www.foresthillsdallas.org.

For the past 11 years Sharon Hill has owned or jointly owned several business in different industries. Her most recent company is Social Media Dynamics which provides both technical and marketing experience to promote clients through social media channels such as LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook and blogging.

In addition, Sharon develops, designs and maintains numerous web sites in a variety of categories. Sharon has been an adjunct faculty member at Collin County Community College teaching Continuing Education courses on web design, web site marketing, search engine optimization and internet security. Prior to owning her own businesses, Sharon worked for over 20 years in marketing, broadcast media and research and for advertising agencies. Sharon and her husband Bill have been Forest Hill residents since 2001. Huge thanks from all of Forest Hills to Sharon for her time and dedication to our Website.

If you need help or information, go to www.foresthillsdallas.org.

FHNA Board Meeting Recap



Steve Bakota
FHNA Board
Secretary

We need a few good men and women. There will be a significant number of board and committee member positions up for grabs in September. The good majority of you are swamped. So are we . . . your current fabulous board and committee members. But we realize the investment in where we live is crucial. Please consider putting your skills to good use. It's a good feeling to serve right here, where you live. Among this discussion, those present at the August meeting laid out plans for upcoming fall events, Halloween and Senior's Tea. Both of these events are traditional FH favorites. The success of the July 4th event keeps all motivated to providing a "little home-town" feel. When you live in a city like Dallas, attending neighborhood parties is always a treat. Please reference the website, www.foresthillsdallas.org to stay up to date on the FHNA Calendar.

4th of July Sponsors . . . We Appreciate You!!

This annual event is one of FH's wonderful traditions. The event brought \$881.00 in donations supporting many aspects of FHNA programs. In addition to the excellent leadership provided by Shelly Clem and Tamela Southan (Social Chairs for FHNA) we wish to thank the following for stepping up:

The **Beakley** Family Donated hamburgers / hotdogs / buns at cost; The **Young** Family Donated 4th of July Banner/reusable event signs; **Dr. Karen Fling** Donated tables and chairs; **Mr. Teter** Donated Porta Potty and landscape decor; **FHCN** juice boxes and bounce house; **Randy Smith** Donated chicken and volunteered to cook it!



"The world is run by those who show up!!"

Here are photos for all to enjoy!



Photo Credits: Lottie Minick, Gary and Dawn Gibson, Daniel Ortman and Amy Lauten.

Volunteer Needs for FH Senior Coffee

Greetings Forest Hills Neighbors!

In October the F.H. Service League will be hosting our Senior neighbors at an afternoon coffee. (We are shooting for Sunday October 11th 3-5p). We need your help!

Here are a few ways you can help honor our Seniors:

1. Planning committee: Meet one time in August or early September to help organize the coffee.
2. Invitation committee: Meet one time to address invitations.
3. Host committee: Help host by serving and visiting with the Seniors at the event, the Moran's home at 8516 San Leandro.
4. Transportation committee: Transport those Seniors who are unable to walk or drive to the event.
5. Food and beverage committee: Drop off a tasty sweet or savory treat for the Seniors to enjoy.
6. Clean up committee: Help clean up after event. Great job for teens who need community service hours!
7. Visitation committee: Take a plate of treats to Seniors who can not attend.
8. Senior Buddy: A great opportunity to escort your favorite Senior neighbor to the event!
9. Donations for event can be sent to: Forest Hills Service League, C/O Tamela Southan, 8431 San Leandro, Dallas 75218



Please contact me if you can help on any of these committees. Anything you can do will be greatly appreciated! Please forward this to your neighbors who may want to help! Thanks! Katrina Moran 214-660-0451

Welcome to the War Zone

(FH after a big storm)



It's painful to see. Driving through through FH after a storm makes everyone a little queasy. Trees across streets, large, snapped and deeply severed limbs draped over yards, cars and homes. Folks out working to clear the debris trying to entertain the hordes of "johnny on the spot" tree services who if nothing, are purely opportunistic. They come in here to make a quick buck off our devastating misfortune. Most say they have had it. Everytime the winds blow, rains pour and trees sway, the power goes out. Why is that? Because this is an older neighborhood. There are trees o'plenty growing right into precious power lines. If a big storm hits, with straight line winds, we might as well pack it in. The calm after the storm is nothing short of a war zone. 80 year old trees with girth sizes to rival any large tunnel tube, snapped in half. Limbs heavier than most small pickups, strewn across driveways smacking into tree roofs, causing major financial drama for those who own the place. Something has to give? Right? Actually, it's the price you pay for living in such a wonderful green space. Adopting the right attitude will help you cope with life after a storm in FH. One

immediate solution is to invest in proper tree care. Prune your trees. Get educated about your trees. Don't just water them. Know them and why they are important. They provide you with shade, clean air, and a feeling of serenity.

Tree Tip of the Month

Trees contribute to cleaner air, water and cooler temperatures plus many more benefits. Plant one this Fall. FHNA details, www.foresthillsdallas.org.

Kitty City

Each year, thousands of kittens are born during spring and summer and many end up on the streets or in shelters. Summer safety is a concern for all pets but some forget about our cats, especially if they spend most of their time outside. Dee Fort, owner of Dee's Doggie Den and Kitty City—Dallas' FIRST Doggie & Kitty Daycare, shares a few tips to encourage you to keep your kitty-cats safe this summer too:

- Several Summer greens are harmful to those curious kitties; many popular houseplants, such as ivy and philodendron are poisonous to cats. In the lush, outdoor, greens of Forest Hills, be aware of common harmful plants such as: arrowhead ferns, Boston ivy, creeping fig, daffodils, hydrangea and tomato leaves to name a few that are toxic to cats.
- Cats are actually MORE susceptible to fleas than dogs so keeping up grooming, vet visits and flea and tick control. This is essential in the summer!
- Beware of your surroundings; coyotes, summer traffic and hooligans. If there's the chance your cat will get out while you're away, don't take the chance! Keep those kitty cats inside or bring them for a day of play at Kitty City!
- And be sure to get your cats a Microchip too!

Kitty City: Daycare and Open Play for your Kitty Cats too!
at Dee's Doggie Den and **KITTY CITY!**

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TAKING RESERVATIONS NOW FOR 4TH OF JULY SUMMER VACATIONS • LABOR DAY

About Dee's Doggie Den and Kitty City

Dallas' FIRST doggie & kitty daycare received a Proclamation of Congratulations from Mayor Tom Leppert for celebrating 10 years in business! All settled into the environmentally friendly 8,000+ square foot indoor facility which touts: Fire Rated wood construction (NO sheet rock), sealed in fire-retardant plastic and renewable cork. The soft wood-floor entry is softer on the paws and the daycare flooring is recycled rubber tire mat. The air and water purification systems, ventilation system, high ceilings and skylights for natural sun keep it green and cozy inside while the 5,000+ square foot outdoor space is covered in ProGreen Synthetic Turf and stocked with shady umbrellas and swimming pools! Kitty City is its own little space where cats can explore and play or even just hide out amongst other kitty-cat friends.

West Nile Virus . . . Protect Against Mosquito Bites

Dallas – In response to the first West Nile positive mosquito collection, City staff sprayed to reduce the numbers of mosquitoes in an area near the Dallas North Tollway and LBJ Freeway/1635.

Control Area: The area to be sprayed is within an area bounded by Lyndon B. Johnson Freeway, Dallas North Tollway, Inwood Road, Forest Lane and Crestline Road.

While the insecticide is considered safe, residents in the above areas should avoid contact with the spray by staying indoors. Persons inside a vehicle while trucks are actively spraying should remain in their vehicles with the windows up and the air conditioner on until the trucks pass and the spray is no longer visible. Persons out during the scheduled spraying time should be alert for trucks and should not follow them. Residents who come in contact with the spray are advised to wash the affected area thoroughly with soap and water. The spray breaks down quickly in the presence of sunlight and has no residual effect. Fish ponds should be protected and pets should be brought inside during the spraying period.

Protection against mosquito bites

Dallas residents are urged to take precautions against mosquito bites by reducing outdoor activity during evening and nighttime hours. Residents who are outside during these times should cover their arms and legs and use a mosquito repellent.

Prevent mosquito breeding

Residents should eliminate standing water to prevent mosquito breeding and the spread of West Nile Virus. Breeding places for mosquitoes include swimming pools that are not kept clean, stagnant ponds, pet watering dishes, birdbaths, potted plants, old tires, empty containers, toys and clogged rain gutters & French drains. Standing water should be eliminated promptly, as mosquitoes can grow from egg to adult in as little as seven days.

To report standing water or mosquito problems Dallas residents should call 3-1-1. For additional information on Mosquito Control, visit www.dallascityhall.com.



SECURITY PAGE



Burglary Rise



Unfortunately, this June and July saw a dramatic increase in home burglaries from last June and July. There were 6 this year, and only 2 last! The good news is there were 2 other burglaries, which were foiled by the arrest of the thieves with no property lost. AND three other attempts were prevented by blaring house alarms! It is suspected that members of the same gang are responsible for all of these break-ins. The Forest Hills Security Program, The Dallas Police and residents are banding together patrolling, investigating and keeping alert to end these break-ins and put the thieves behind bars.

Please watch your streets and alleys and call 911 if you have that gut feeling something or someone is suspicious. Even if you aren't sure, you can preface your call with, "I am not certain if this is an emergency, but I would like to report something suspicious".

Nationally, the clearance rate for residential burglaries is 5%, but the clearance rate for Forest Hills is 20%, which is a good thing. Clearances are calculated when the crime is solved, i.e., someone is arrested for committing the offense. The police believe strongly that this is due to the diligence the homeowners show in calling 911 when they see/hear something that just isn't right. The residents of Forest Hills are the eyes and ears for the officers who work here. If you don't report your suspicions, they don't know they exist.



FOREST HILLS SECURITY PROGRAM

We are so lucky to have the EXTRA police protection of the Forest Hills Security Program funded by FH residents! The police officers are not here 24-7, but for the many hours they are, a message goes out loud and clear to the criminal world to go elsewhere. The non-published hours keep them guessing when an officer will appear and surprise them. Each arrest and each discouraged criminal mean one less Forest Hills neighbor victimized. The program plays an instrumental part in fighting crime in our neighborhood.

Everyone in Forest Hills receives the benefit of this service. It is the goal of the program to have a larger percentage of residents participating to generate even more patrol hours for the whole neighborhood. More participation; more hours, more protection, less cost.

Please consider joining in this fight against crime. \$20 a month is a small price to pay for such a valuable benefit.

THE FOREST HILLS SECURITY PROGRAM Off-Duty Dallas Police Patrol

THIRD QUARTER PLEDGE TO SAFETY (JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER) \$60

Forest Hills Security Program • 8432 San Fernando Way • Dallas, TX 75218

Compliments, Concerns or Comments: fhspenp@aol.com 214 535-2077

Thank You Forest Hills Security!

June 23, 2009

Dear Office Brewster,

We cannot thank you enough for responding so quickly to our house alarm last week. Because of you, we were spared having our home burglarized and we have a great sense of relief knowing the person was caught.

We are so grateful to you and the Forest Hills Security Program that made it possible for you to be so close when we needed you the most.

Thank you again!

Sincerely, *The Cox Family*



PAWS PAGE



Page Sponsored by Taddy's, Reigning Cats and Dogs

Pet Summit



Andie Comini

A group of nearly 40 interested animal lovers met on Tuesday, July 21 for the 3rd Pet Summit. The evening started off with guest speaker Field Supervisor Dayanara Castillo from the City of Dallas. She spoke about the cities new Rapid Response Program for aggressive animals. In the situation of an aggressive animal, call (214) 670-FAST and they will do their best to get someone to you ASAP to remove the aggressive animal. She also spoke about other animal related problems and the law. She did a terrific job of answering our questions and we look forward to working with her again at our next Pet Summit.

The rest of the evening was spent discussing how to start up an Animal Alert! or Pet Watch program, discussing the problems different neighborhoods had pertaining to lost and found pets and how to raise money to help fund the programs.

It was a good Pet Summit and hopefully brought many animal lovers closer to helping with lost and found pets!

AAA Discount for Pet Meds!

Who knew? Certainly not I. Not until the other day when I happened to be coffeeing with a friend and she spread the good news. I don't know of one person not trying to save money during this economic slush period. This tip is simply too good not to pass along. For more information on how to save money on your pet meds, go to www.AAA.com.



Supporting the Furry Program

A special thank you for their contributions to Animal Alert!

Dr. Alessandra Comini • Judy Whalen

Heat Means Hydrate

Texans can't afford to take it lightly. The heat, that is. And, for the sake of many pets who reside with their people parents in Forest Hills, we will continue to try and educate pet owners about the hazards along with the joys. The critical months for FH are May – October. Not until then can you relax about putting your beloved in a car and walking away with the windows slightly rolled down. All pets need additional water to keep their delicate systems properly hydrated. Consider the following:

- 1) Carry portable water dish with you on walks, car rides, visits to friends.
- 2) Place extra fresh water out several times a day in your home.
- 3) Never leave water bowls outside in direct sunlight.
- 4) Consider adding a little bit of ice if your pet has come in from outdoors.
- 5) Carry bottled water with you always for pet as well as for yourself.

Most importantly, just use common sense. You know what it feels like during heat of a Texas Summer. Imagine those same feelings but you're covered in fur.

Bark Less, Wag More

THE FOREST HILLS ANIMAL ALERT! PROGRAM

To report a Lost or Found Animal 214-930-5910
 Animal Control..... Call 311

Tire Tearers

— by Judy Whalen



Regarding nails used for concrete forms during city (or sub contracted) resurfacing of San Fernando Way between Breezewood and White Rock.

Sunday, July 12, my daughter and I were walking from Breezewood to White Rock in the 8200 block, of San Fernando Way, and we found 13 long nails camouflaged gray on the street, in concrete chunks and dirt. Not just near the curbs, but in the middle of the street, where our residents drive. I am sure we did not get them all as we did it quickly!

I would like to bring to the city's attention the carelessness of this particular crew. I can understand one accidentally dropped here or there. but because of the number and the fact they were not all in one place and were found from one end of the block to the other demonstrates a job poorly executed.

I don't know about you, but I like to avoid trips to the tire center to wait in a long line on the morning of a big meeting or on the way to catch a plane!

Yard of the Month

Yard of the Month for July is awarded to Ronald and Patty Lusk of 8238 Forest Hills Blvd. Neighbors have been watching the transformation of this lovely garden for the past several months. We appreciate all of your hard work in keeping our neighborhood beautiful.



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SAN CRISTOBAL

Brian Sullivan & Alexis Miller 8200 block

James Duff & Hoong Nan Young 8300 block

SAN LEANDRO

Eric and Tatiana Lopez 8300 block

Brent and Denise Glass 8500 block

SANTA CLARA

Brad & Lori Lee 8100 block

Terry Woldt 8300 block

Keith & Pam Quarterman 8500 block

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 with addresses and/or names so we can give our new neighbors a Woodsy Welcome and a Guide Book to Forest Hills!

Garden Club News

What Trees Shall We Plant?

Many are asking so we might as well give them a heads up. Fall is on its way and that means those wanting to put more trees in the ground need to make preparations to do so. A website by Howard Garrett features the following as the best large trees: Bur Oak, Chinkapin Oak, Live Oak, Shumard Oak, and Pecan. For smaller tree choices: Yaupon Holly, Crape Myrtle, and Redbud. We will be offering more tree choices for FH homeowners to consider on our website www.foresthillsdallas.org.



Chinkapin Oak, Redbud Tree, Shumard Oak, Yaupon Holly

LETTER TO THE EDITOR



Neoma Twining
Newsletter Editor

Neighbor: Whole Foods ran into neighborhood opposition with their proposed footprint expansion due to supposed increase in traffic problems. A developer gets shot down over a possible “high rise” overlooking White Rock Lake. So, please tell me: How does a QT Gas Station get built at “The Gateway to White Rock Lake and the Dallas Arboretum”!!?? Talk about traffic problems! Cheap gas and cheap beer will make this a nightmare of an intersection. So much for our Forest Hills ‘Gateway’.

Kindly explain, if you can.

Andrew Vracin

Editor Response: There has been plenty of discussion from neighbors after learning of the city’s plans to allow a QT filling station within such close proximity to a neighborhood like Forest Hills. Zoning and contractual deals continue to be a problem as we fight to protect the green space and gateways protecting the entrances to Forest Hills. If it is any consolation, many share your sentiments. A garden district effort is underway spear-headed by the

Garland Road Initiative organization. This will provide FH limited protection against builders and developers who care little about how “we” live in Forest Hills. Thank you for sharing your concerns.

Sanger News

An exciting movement has occurred in Forest Hills and the surrounding neighborhoods this summer. Neighbors who have preschool aged children have come together to form the Alex Sanger Early Childhood P.T.A. It will provide social and educational opportunities for children and parents in the Sanger attendance zone. By organizing social events, play dates, and fund raising projects preschoolers and parents will have a chance to meet and work toward common goals. The members of the E.C.P.T.A. believe Sanger can thrive. They look forward to developing strong neighborhood involvement. Another goal for the group is to encourage parents to be active in the school, the Sanger E.C.P.T.A. and the Sanger Elementary P.T.A. Parental involvement ultimately boosts children’s academic success. The group plans to support Sanger through reading programs, tutoring, fund raising, beautification and volunteer efforts. **Theresa O’Donnell** of The Enclave is President; **Megan Beakley** of Forest Hills is V.P. of Projects; **Jennifer Dickerson** of Forest Hills is V.P. of Membership; **Angela Perge** of Little Forest Hills is Secretary and **Gretchen Thigpen** of Casa Linda is Treasurer. Twenty-four families have already joined and all residents are welcome to become members. Yearly dues are \$25.00 per family. Checks for membership or donation can be made out to “Alex Sanger E.C.P.T.A.” and can be sent to Gretchen Thigpen, 1545 El Campo Drive, Dallas 75218. If you would like to learn more about the Alex Sanger E.C.P.T.A. please contact Theresa O’Donnell at taodonnell@sbcglobal.net or Jennifer Dickerson at jen.dickerson@gmail.com.

by: Mark Moran, Forest Hills Sanger Elementary Liaison



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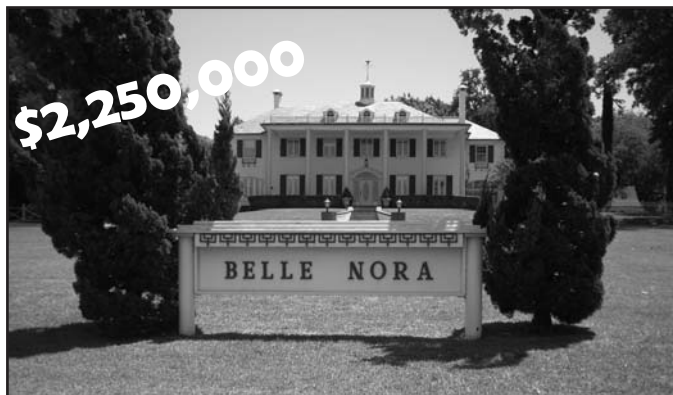
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neighbor for 17 years.*



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I love to vent.

~ Chris Arrington



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