



FOREST HILLS NEWS

November - December 2011
www.foresthillsdallas.org



Forest Hills Is For the Birds!

Forest Hills Calendar of Events

October 29 - Saturday, 2-4 pm. Fall Fest & Costume Party at Keller's vacant lot, 8500 San Fernando Way. Fun for Everyone!

November 1 - 15 Holiday Food Drive. Drop off non-perishable goods at Southan's, 8431 San Leandro, or contact Tamela Southan at 214-532-9442 / FHAServiceleague@aol.com

November 6, 2-4pm. Seniors Holiday Social Mark & Katrina Moran's home, 8516 San Leandro. RSVP 214-280-8915 / katcancook07@yahoo.com

December 3. Saturday, 4-6 pm. Forest Hills Holiday Lights Celebration @ Keller's Circle. Ring in the Holiday Spirit, Dallas Police Choir and the children's Holiday Express Train.

We need volunteers to support our activities: FTOL, Children's Network, Animal Alert, Garden Tour and more. Catch the wave, join the fun!
Service League Contact: Tamela Southan 214-532-9442
FHAServiceleague@aol.com / www.foresthillsdallas.org



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

In a change of venue from Times Ten Cellars, the Dallas Academy School graciously hosted our Fall General Meeting. The surroundings were very pleasant and accompanied by wonderful hors d'oeuvres, wine and beer, all courtesy of the school. The guest speaker, Chrissy Cortez-Mathis, a Certified Master Gardener spoke on how to incorporate drought-tolerant plants in gardening. Other meeting highlights included the election of the 2011-2012 slate of officers, committee chairs and liaisons who are listed elsewhere in the newsletter and on the FHNA website.

Finally, a glimpse was provided of the new FHNA website currently under construction and soon to be unveiled.

Trees in our medians have been severely impacted by the ongoing drought. In response, the FHNA asked residents to voluntarily water trees in the medians opposite them. Many did and the results for those trees were in some cases immediately noticeable. Others donated money which is being used to help pay the cost of delivery and spreading of mulch over bare dirt beneath trees. Mulch helps the soil retain moisture and, equally important, can lower soil temperature by as much as 20 degrees. Even if rain is received, the mulching effort will continue because the long range forecast is for continuing drought conditions.

Some have asked why the irrigation system in the medians is not being used. The short answer is that the irrigation system is likely non-functional. It was installed 17 years ago and intended to function only 2 years. It provide water only to those portions of the medians where new plantings had been added. Through the years, it has required major repairs. When last used, it had a number of problems, including two major breaks (one under-street). Soil movement from the drought conditions this past summer has no doubt created many additional breaks as well, all of which would need to be repaired before the system would be functional. Although the Association might eventually be forced to re-consider using the sprinkler system, the expected cost and difficulty of bringing the irrigation system back to operational condition does not seem to be a good option.

I wish to formally welcome Lori P. Hunt (and her husband Denny) to the neighborhood. Lori decided to dive right in and get involved as Chair of the Block Captain's and of the Service League. Heartfelt thanks go out to Tamela Southan, the outgoing chair, and to her husband Chris for many years of service. Thanks also go to our Social Committee chair, Shelly Clem, and to her husband Mike. Shelly is also stepping down after many years of faithful service. Both will assist the transition through the end of the year. Amanda Johnson, Chair of the Children's Network, is assuming responsibility for the Easter, Halloween and Christmas functions formerly handled by the Social Committee.

As we head into a very special time of year, the best wishes of the FHNA Board to each and every one of you for a Happy Holiday Season!

Sharon Shero and Bob Quaglia are passionate about birds.

Since their home office looks out over their backyard, they realized there was an inordinate amount of wildlife activity occurring before their eyes. They resolved to create an outdoor environment that would nurture an array of birds, the occasional possum, tarrapin (and way too many squirrels), while seriously enriching their visual delight.

Over the years, Bob established a seasonal feeder for goldfinches, year-round feeders with cages that allow the smaller birds to nibble in peace, two hummingbird feeders—separated stations to thwart territorial fights—peanut feeders for woodpeckers, titmice, and jays (equipped with a baffle to thwart those greedy squirrels!). Bob credits the Wild Birds Unlimited store with being particularly resourceful in providing strategy and materials for their backyard microsystem. In addition to the feeders, two water features with continuously running water quench their visitors' thirst. Sharon and Bob believe these liquid outposts have encouraged a greater than normal diversity in avian migrators during this summer's daunting, triple-digit temperatures.

Observation of these feathered creatures is simply not enough for Sharon, however. With her zoom lens and camera mounted on a tripod and settings configured for each day's light, the intrepid photographer is on the ready to record the rare sighting, bathing antics, or domestic scenes of their unwitting callers.

The images in the selection were all photographed in the Quaglia-Shero backyard. There are copious more photographs in their portfolios—venturing as far away as Ecuador's Cloud Forest! Rest assured, though, it is the alfresco aviary of Forest Hills that remains closest to their hearts.

Both Bob and Sharon are avid photographers, exhibiting and selling their work at gallery shows, festivals, and studio tours.

Bird Identity (from Front Cover)

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9

1. Cooper's Hawk
(a/k/a Chicken Hawk)
2. Cardinal & fledgling
3. Western Tanager
(a rare one!)
4. Carolina Wren, juvenile
(a heart-melting voice!)
5. Yellow-Crested Night Heron, courting display
6. Downy Woodpecker
7. Common Starling
(oh so common!)
8. Tufted Titmouse
9. Yellow-Crested Night Heron, juvenile
(delinquent!)

BEAUTIFICATION NEWS

Trying to keep our trees alive has been a major focus of the beautification committee this summer. We have encouraged neighbors who live near the medians to water the trees. In addition we have attempted to mulch all of the trees on the medians. Thanks to Greg Rohde (Rohdes Services Inc - 972-864-1934) and Tom Lindsey (Lindsey Tree Service - 214-553-0737) for delivering free mulch to our neighborhood. The city workers also trimmed the trees and cleared away dead limbs. The long awaited rain on September 20th was great for our landscapes but was not enough to catch up. Many neighbors will be losing or have lost trees this summer and we probably won't see the true damage to our trees until next Spring. This will be especially true if we have another winter like we have had in the past two years. Water your trees!

We all need to think proactively about replacing dead trees and Fall is the best time to plant trees. One of the best and fastest growing trees in the area is the Bur Oak. Steve Houser from Arborilogical Services has this to say about Bur Oaks:

Bur Oak – Could it be our best fast-growing shade tree?



Mature Bur Oak

As an arborist, the question I am asked most frequently is, “What fast growing shade tree would you recommend for my landscape?” My answer has been the same for the past thirty years: Bur Oak. If you have adequate room in your landscape—because it will get quite large, Bur Oak is my recommendation.

It's easy to justify. Bur Oak (*Quercus macrocarpa*) is native to north central Texas. Walk the creeks and rivers that cut through the Blackland Prairies and you will find them. They may be scattered in with pecans, black walnuts, and other oaks in bottomland forests, or anchored into the white rock just above the creek beds where they have been watching the water flow for hundreds of years. They are at home in the deep, rich alluvial soils in the bottom terraces of our waterways, or the thin black soils that rest just above the fractured limestone that blankets this region of the state. While some introduced trees, such as Sweetgum and Magnolia, may struggle with our alkaline soil and our slightly basic water, the Bur Oak is adaptive and quite at home.



Bur Oak Foliage

Weather extremes are of little concern. After a two or three year establishment period, supplemental watering is appreciated, but rarely necessary. The Bur Oak comes out the other end of drought with some brown margined leaves and a few less acorns—but mostly unaffected. The ice storms of the late 1970s taught us that broken limbs on this oak were the exception. Its strong wood and natural branching habit create a skeletal structure with rarely a fault. When fall comes, and it drops its shroud of yellowed leaves, an engineered marvel of twists and turns is displayed until the spring buds pop.



Bur Oak

It is our good fortune the Bur Oak has so few insect and disease concerns. Could it be that the insects have conceded? There are the pesky aphids. And, the lacebugs do occasionally try to stipple the leaves. But they are the exception—and rarely require addressing. Galls present themselves from time to time; but they can be quite fascinating and are nothing more than an aesthetic curiosity. Even Oak Wilt bypasses the Bur Oak, or affects it in ways we don't yet see or understand.

Some homeowners consider the size of the acorns to be a negative, but don't argue the point with the squirrels. While their acorn size is unforgettable, the number is manageable. Know this when determining where you plant this tree. And keep in mind; it may be there for the next 200-years.



Top of Bicentennial Bur Oak

“How fast will it grow?”—that is always the next question. Once established, expect 18”-24” a year. And in good years, and with good feeding and care, expect 3 feet. Few non-native trees can meet that expectation, so there is no need to settle for short-lived, fast-growing substitutes.

Bur Oaks are readily available in area nurseries. The only Bur Oak that doesn't grow fast is the one that never is planted.

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POOCH PROFILE

Sydney Laczkowski



Loveable 12 year old Sydney lives with her 3 younger brothers in Forest Hills. She loves all types of food (especially carrots), sleeping, snuggling, and welcoming any new friends who will pet her. She doesn't really enjoy swimming, fetching, running - traits that normally a lab would love (go figure). Her best trick is balancing and then catching a carrot off of her nose. She is a huge part of our family and sleeps with Andrew every night. We adore her!



PAWS PAGE



Along With Cheer, Holiday Season Can Bring Hazards To Pets

The Pet Connection

By Gina Spadorfi

Pet Columnist

Thanksgiving is at hand, and the rest of the holiday season looms ahead. It's a busy time, but you need to make sure in the whirl of activities that you aren't ignoring any danger to your pets.

Every year at this time I offer a list of the most common holiday hazards for pets: feeding problems, foreign-body ingestion and accidental poisoning. The bad news is that many pets will end up at the veterinarian's office this holiday season. The good news is that yours won't be among them if you keep an eye out for these hazards.

Feeding problems: Your pet knows something special is cooking and he lets you know he's interested just look at those begging eyes! How can you resist slipping your pet a little something special: a big piece of turkey skin, a handful of chips with dip, some slices of salami? Resist, or your pet could be spending his holiday at the emergency veterinary clinic.

Foods too rich, too fatty or too spicy, or anything your pet's not accustomed to, can trigger a bout of intestinal upset. For some animals, the treat can trigger a serious inflammation of the pancreas or intestine, and that means a life-threatening illness.

What to avoid? Anything you wouldn't eat your pet should avoid, too. While a little bit of meat, beef or poultry, won't hurt and would be appreciated, steer clear of the fatty parts and the poultry skin, which also harbors fat.

No one's saying your pet shouldn't enjoy a special holiday meal, too, but limiting the kind and amount of special food will ensure that it is a treat not a trouble.

Foreign-body ingestion: Poultry bones may seem like the perfect gift for the pet who has everything, but do him a favor and save them for the soup. (Broth is a wonderful treat poured over your pet's regular food.) Even the largest turkey bones are prone to splintering, sending shards through the animal's intestines. Should one pierce through the lining, the result can be deadly peritonitis.

While cooked poultry bones are out, some beef bones can be safely substituted. Knuckle bones (for large dogs) and oxtails (for small ones) stand up to vigorous gnawing, providing your pet with hours of messy fun. Check at your meat counter for these inexpensive treats. Supervise your dog's chewing, and throw them out after a few hours of attention, or if they get broken into pieces that can be swallowed.

Some dogs prefer to eat bones rather than just chew on them, and if you've got one of those, keep an eye out to make sure the bones aren't causing internal problems. A pulverized bone can solidify like concrete in an animal's lower intestine, causing constipation and, occasionally, blockage that must be removed by a veterinarian.

The Christmas tree is full of hazards for dogs and cats. Tinsel can be an appealing target for play, but if ingested, it can twist up the intestines. This is a particular danger to cats and kittens, who seem to find tinsel along with yarn, ribbon and string especially appealing to eat.

Ornaments, too, are deadly in the mouths and stomachs of pets, and even the water at the base of the tree contains secretions that can at the very least cause a stomachache. Light strings are no good for chewing, and the whole tree can come down on the cat climbing in its branches. Some dogs may even be inclined to break the rules of house-training on a freshly cut tree. Why else, they reason, would anyone bring a tree into the house? The best way to handle the situation is by making the tree off-limits to your pets unless you're there to watch and keep them out of trouble.

Poisonings: Holiday plants such as mistletoe may look intriguing to your pet, but they're also toxic, as are the bulbs of the amaryllis plant. (Long the poster child for holiday poisoning, the falsely maligned poinsettia can be safely welcomed into the pet lover's home.) And before you share your holiday candy with your pet, be aware that chocolate is toxic to dogs, and may be deadly to the little dog who gets a good-sized piece. Again, the best cure is prevention. Keep all dangerous plants out of the reach of your pets, and keep the candy dish available to people only.



IT CAN HAPPEN TO YOU

So you think “It won’t happen to me”

Unfortunately it can. We need to keep our guard up all the time, by thinking security every day. No need to be scared. Be smart. Take the time to make necessary fixes to your security. Are you making it easy for the crooks? Times are tough, drugs are heightened and it is affecting the crime rate all over Dallas. We are lucky in comparison as we have added so many layers of protection and are more unified as a neighborhood in our fight against crime. We have lowered our odds of being victimized and lessened our incidents. We however have a certain level of vulnerability and still need to remain vigilant.



PLEDGE TO SAFETY - \$60 Per Quarter

Q4 (Oct., Nov., Dec.) \$60

If you prefer, you may pay in advance
\$120 \$180 or \$240 for 2, 3 or 4 quarters.

PayPal on Security Page foresthillsdallas.org
Check or automatic bank payments to

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

Forest Hills' Resident Funded Off-Duty Dallas Police Patrol. Crime prevention at it's best!

The Security Program continues to be an insurance plan for the whole neighborhood.
It benefits each resident in a collective way.

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

Please include this information with your payment

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

SPOTLIGHT ON A NEIGHBOR

Shelly and Mike Clem

Shelly and Mike Clem have been sharing their home for the Holidays at 1623 San Rafael since 2000. If you have not ventured over to the corner of San Rafael and San Leandro in December you are missing out on over 40,000 lights and spectacular decor. The ice skater idea was from their trips to New York watching the skaters in Rockefeller Plaza. Be sure to have your radio turned on to listen to the music serenading along with the decor. Mike and Shelly start listening to Christmas music in July on trips to Shelly's parents in Kerrville to decide what they want to use each year. At night many families can be seen driving by with kids in their pj's before bedtime. What a wonderful treat each year for our neighborhood. Thank you Clem family for all your hard work and holiday joy you give our neighborhood. On a side note, Shelly wants to mention that she is passing the baton of Social Committee after 5 years and so thankful to those who helped in any way to make the 4 events successful, especially her counter-part Service League Chair, Tamela Southan.



A LOVE LETTER

In love with Forest Hills: It is not about a few people

Without pointing out the obvious, it is important some times to slow down in our crazed motion driven worlds and take in all that Forest Hills is. It certainly fits its name, doesn't it? A beautiful canopy, filled with of a cacophony of green and swaying leaves; a rustling sound that says 'this is home'. Neighbors walking their favorite pet, waving a hello to remind everyone we are not alone in this 'hood'. Un-busy streets with intersections that often serve as a community conversation spot. Benches to sit and rest upon with your best friend or Rover and then to ponder a bit about anything you want. Where chances are pretty good you will find yourself waving to almost every car because within it is a face and life you call neighbor. Forest Hills is not just a place; not just garages and houses. It is filled with uncommon people that have chosen to live here. The quirks and skills that reside within our 'hood' are amazing. Word smiths that jingle jangle; saws cutting wondrous works of wood guided by artistic and spirit filled hands; the passing whiff of a welding torch, its arc and master hiding in their backyard bending iron, shaping it into an eye struck wonder that you may find at the Texas State Fair, music rolling out many front doors spilling onto walkways sharing magical notes that again say 'this is home'. The shrills and screams of children, splashing and dashing ignoring the heat and drought of this summer. Perhaps it is in them that we could find a moment to pause and embrace a reason to give back to our 'hood'. For isn't it really all about the children? There is no license required to live in our 'hood'. But there is, I pray a sense of pride and responsibility to continually pay our debt of gratitude to those who created our 'hood' and have kept it beautiful, safe, secure. It is our turn now to carry on. To keep our neighborhood all that it is, has been and can be. Whether it is your shovel and your back or a hose to water a thirsty tree or a check in the mail to seed the future canopy of trees and green leaves, what ever you choose to pay back, to recompense the genuine love of our 'hood' fore bearers, it is time to give it all, now, today. – E. M. Laer, San Cristobal

WELCOME NEWCOMERS!

Forest Hills – 8400 Block
Mark & Cozy Palmer
Denny & Lori Hunt
Kristopher & Sara Hollan

San Leandro – 8100 Block
Tim Merritt & Jeff Benjamin

San Leandro – 8200 Block
Jeffrey Markus & Leigh Ann Hutchins

Santa Clara – 8100 Block
Randall & Meredith Talley

Whittier – 1700 Block
Warren & Daniel Lipschitz

Apologies 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 information comes from MLS Real Estate listings only.

If you have just arrived or if you have a new neighbor let us know! For oversights, please contact Judy Whalen fhnnewcomers@aol.com with names /addresses so we can give our new neighbors a Woodsy Welcome and a Guide Book to Forest Hills!

SANGER ELEMENTARY UPDATE

Well here we are, can you believe it? Already 2 months into the school year, wow, it will be Spring Break before we know it.

The Winter Art Fair is also coming up in December, if you have been to this event in the past, then you know how cool it is, the school will be full of artist booths, so come and stock up on Christmas presents. On a facilities note, this year we hope to get a new mural painted in the cafeteria, this is a long time coming, and there are still decisions to be made, but we are all excited about getting this done.

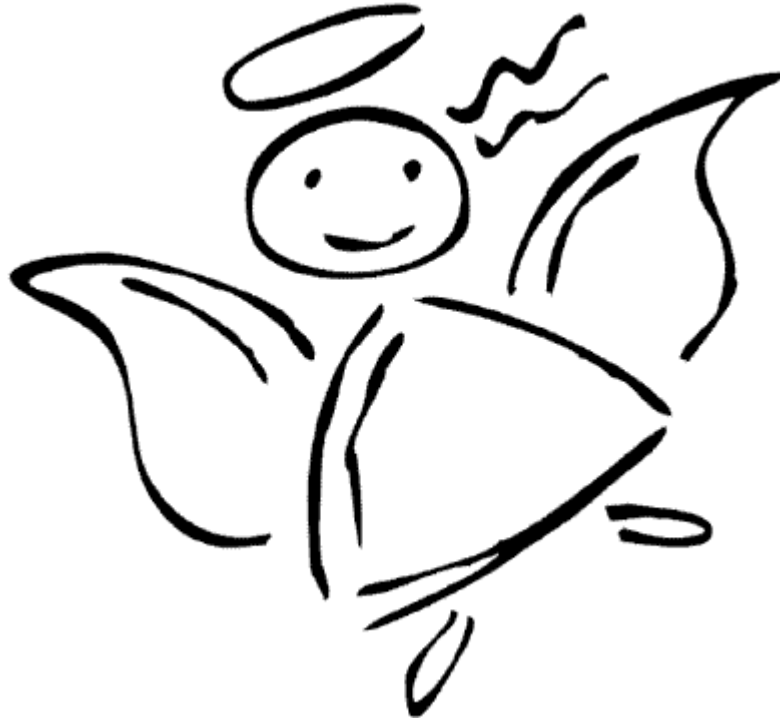
Thanks to all of you who have been involved and are supporting our efforts to make this the best school it can be for our kids.

For more information on the school, including PTA meeting minutes, Calendar of events, Dual Language program details, volunteer opportunities, and more, please visit our website at www.alexsangerelementary.org.

GO STALLIONS! Join the Stampede!

FOREST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Angel Tree



For the first time ever the Forest Hills Children's Network will be hosting an Angel Tree. This is the program you are probably already familiar with through the Salvation Army. Each year the Angel Tree program provides gifts to 55,000 DFW area children and seniors.

How It Works: Choose an Angel's gift request off of the tree at our December 3rd Tree Lighting. Return the gift to 8416 Santa Clara Drive no later than December 12th. Can't make the tree lighting? No problem! A small tree will be set up on the front porch of 8416 Santa Clara Drive from December 1st until the 12th.

This is a great opportunity to help your family celebrate the true meaning of the holiday season. The program is certainly not limited to the Children's Network! We would love to see a large response so that we can pursue this again in the future.

Please direct any questions to Amanda Johnson - 936-371-9856
fhchildrensnet@aol.com

10 MOST BEAUTIFUL HOMES



Forest Hills Neighbors Deborah and Scott Coldwell's home at 8214 San Benito Way was voted 10 Most Beautiful Homes in Dallas in 2011 by D Magazine. Their neighbor Jay Matthiesen, AIA, along with home owner, Scott Coldwell, AIA, were the architects for the house. Check out the link below for more information. Congratulations Deborah and Scott!

<http://www3.dmagazine.com/content/10-Most-Beautiful-Homes/8214-San-Benito-Way>



FERGUSON ROAD INITIATIVE

Special Guest Mayor Mike Rawlings and the FRI Board of Directors invite you to celebrate **13 years of success!**

Community Connection

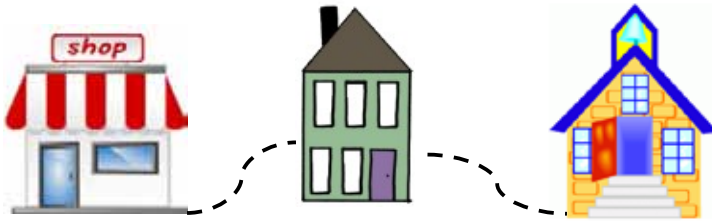
Breakfast Rally

Wednesday, November 9, 2011
7:30 - 9:00 a.m.

Highland Park Cafeteria
(in the Casa Linda Shopping Center)
1200 North Buckner Boulevard
Dallas, Texas 75218

Come meet local neighbors and businesses and hear about our exciting plans for the future!

We have reserved a complimentary breakfast for you! Let us know if you'll be coming by November 2nd, seating is limited. You may RSVP at www.fergusonroad.org or for more information call (214) 324-5116.



R.S.V.P.

We have reserved a complimentary breakfast for you! Let us know if you'll be coming by November 2nd, seating is limited. Either RSVP at www.fergusonroad.org or complete and mail this form to FRI, P.O. Box 570417, Dallas, TX 75357.

Name(s): _____

Company: (if applicable) _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Accept with pleasure. Number of people in my party.

Decline with regrets. Please contact me regarding membership.

Office Hours By Appointment



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POOCH PROFILE



"Hi, I'm Ally (6 yrs.) with the bow and this is Toby (7 yrs.) to my right. He is not my brother, but we are family. We are so happy to call Forest Hills our a furever home! The Westie Rescue of North Texas saved us. But look at us now! Visit <http://wrnt.org/> to check out our friends. It's true what they say, there is such a thing as love at first sight." The proud masters of these West Highland Terriers are San Cristobal residents, James Duff and Hoong Nan Young

DALLAS ACADEMY

You are welcome to join the Dallas Academy community on Saturday, November 12th at 8:00 am for the 3rd annual Dallas Academy Dawg Run. The day will include a 1 mile walk, a 5K fun run as well as family and pet friendly activities. All events



will take place on campus and on White Rock Lake. Proceeds will go towards providing scholarships for deserving students. Please contact Dallas Academy if you are interested in participating or sponsoring this exciting event.

“Usher in the holiday season with a musical. FHNA member and Dallas Academy music therapist, Molly Grogan, will be directing Dallas Academy’s adaptation of the holiday classic *It’s a Wonderful Life*. Join the Dallas Academy community on Thursday, December 1st to see live singing, acting, and dancing. Tickets are free and all are welcome.”

Dallas Academy is a grade 1-12 private school on the on the shores of White Rock Lake in Lake Highlands. Dallas Academy’s mission is to restore the promise of full academic enrichment to students with learning differences. A meaningful connection with each student is established to overcome barriers to success. Dallas Academy offers students and parents the best of both worlds by providing an effective program and strategies to meet the special educational needs of bright students with learning differences, while including the activities of a larger, more traditional school.



Founded in 1965, by former Dallas Mayor Wallace Savage and his wife, Dorothy, Dallas Academy offers a structured, multi sensory program for students to achieve success both in and out of the classroom. Organizational skills, self-discipline, time management, and solid academics instill students with genuine self-esteem. Students are mentored by a dedicated, experienced staff of teachers who continuously raise expectations while providing the tools and support necessary for success. Classes are small, with a student-teacher ratio of 6 to 1. Every student on campus is known by all teachers, making it easy for students to be

encouraged, praised, and guided toward achieving their goals.



Dallas Academy emphasizes college preparation. Typically, 80-90 percent of graduates continue their education in either two-year or four-year college programs. Recent graduates have attended SMU, University of Texas at Austin, St. Edward’s University, Texas A&M, and the College of Santa Fe - among many other universities.

Dallas Academy students continue to achieve success both academically and in extracurricular programs. Students are encouraged to participate on school athletic teams, in musical and theatrical productions, on the award winning yearbook staff, or be a member of the numerous clubs and activities that Dallas Academy offers.

NEW AND IMPROVED WEBSITE COMING TO YOU SOON!

Forest Hills website – www.foresthillsdallas.org is getting a makeover and will be up and running by December. Check it out and stay connected to your neighborhood happenings!

2011 FHA TREASURE REPORT

Jan. 1 to Sept. 8

For those who couldn't make our Fall Meeting - here's the Treasurers report for your review:

Projects & Events	Revenue	Expense	Balance
Membership Dues from 258 residents	12,316.49		12,316.49
Forest Hills Newsletter	3,480.00	5,523.95	(2,043.95)
Median Project - Donations & Expenses	2,115.75	1,104.00	1,011.75
Casino Night	5,870.60	4,452.64	1,417.96
Spring Meeting		692.00	(692.00)
Taste of Italy	2,595.00	2,185.62	409.38
Garden Tour & Landscaping/Sign Toppers	4,994.66	3,372.03	1,622.63
Memorial Day BBQ		558.98	(558.98)
Fourth of July Picnic & Parade	195.00	945.00	(750.00)
Animal Alert		850.00	(850.00)
Newcomers Gifts		102.81	(102.81)
PassPort Films Donation	500.00		500.00
Directory Purchases	20.00		20.00
Stop Sign Reflective Tape		535.00	(535.00)
White Rock Storage		1,152.00	(1,152.00)
TXU Energy		796.04	(796.04)
Post Office Box & Stamps		118.44	(118.44)
Year to Date Totals	\$ 32,087.50	\$ 22,388.51	\$ 9,698.99

REMINDER - IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO DO YOUR DUES

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

DUES AMOUNTS: _____ \$50 _____ \$30 _____ Other

[Annual dues are \$50 per household or \$30 for households with a resident 65 or older]

**Please mail to: Forest Hills Association
P.O. Box 180897
Dallas TX 75218**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT !

FOREST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION 2011 FOOD DRIVE

During the traditional Thanksgiving, we celebrate the spirit of giving, helping and appreciating, which are a few of the many important values that have built this great country. Let's open up our pantry's to do our part, supporting our East Dallas Community, especially in this economic climate – by organizing a food drive this month bringing smiles to the less fortunate. Join us with your donations.



Food Donations (Non-Perishable Items)

Drop Dates: November 1st – 15th, 2011

Location: 8431 San Leandro, Tamela & Chris Southan

Feel free drop off front or back

Donations will benefit local East Dallas White Rock Center of Hope



www.whiterockcenterofhope.org

The food donations will be delivered the week of Nov. 15th on behalf of FHA and our wonderful community. Please help spread the word to provide a wonderful meal for those less fortunate. Contact: Tamela Southan, FHA Service League Chair

fhaserviceleague@aol.com / 214-532-9442.

www.foresthillsdallas.org / facebook

BELLE NORA BACK ON THE MARKET

After a 1 ½ year sabbatical, Belle Nora is back on the market. I am honored to be able to represent the Seller in listing this home once again. After competing with several agents, it must be evident to the owner, Dr. Jesus Guevara my love and affection for this Dallas Landmark! I am like the people I speak with almost daily that tell me how they have always loved Belle Nora...I feel the same way. There is an actual peace one feels while in this property! I can't get enough of it and will truly miss it once it sells.

I felt it was important that we do things differently this time around so I hosted a happy hour at the mansion for 25 high profile agents that specialize in Million dollar plus properties just to brainstorm about ideas for getting it sold. Without exception each agent said "get it under 2 million and it will sell." Dr. Guevara is now at a place in his life where he is ready to let it go, so he agreed to the new price of \$1,950,000. Not only did he lower the price, but gone is the pink carpet, pink walls and pink furniture in the master bedroom. Dr. Guevara had the original hardwood floors refinished, the walls painted, and the Scarlet O'Hara draperies removed. Wow, it is gorgeous! It took so little to update this huge bedroom. Most of the house is in fabulous condition. The foyer, living room, dining room, music room, butler's pantry and den need little more than a fresh coat of paint, but mesmerizing just the way they are.

Even with the kitchen and bathrooms needing some updates, this 2 acre plus property known to almost everyone in this part of the county is priced not much over land value. By comparison, the two lots nearer the spillway are priced at \$1,594,800 for 1.666 acre of land. For just \$355,200 more you get this 6,148 sq. ft. Mansion, iron gates and a home of major historical significance. The good news is, there has never been a designation for Belle Nora on the historical register, therefore a Buyer can make the changes they want without special approval.

Most people know by now the love story that is Belle Nora. Dr. Guevara purchased this home (which was NOT even for sale) for his lovely wife Joan as a surprise. The Guevaras lived just a few doors up Garland Road. Every time Joan passed Belle Nora she expressed her love for it. While she was on summer vacation in Maine, Dr. Guevara purchased the house sight unseen. He tripled the size of the kitchen, added the den, a dressing room for Joan and an office upstairs.

Shortly after listing Belle Nora, I was contacted by Taylor Adams, an editor for the Dallas Morning News (East Dallas Addition). She was interested in doing a story on Belle Nora. I was thrilled to invite her to the home. We sat on the front porch under the majestic columns and drank lemonade while we took in the magnificent views. After visiting about an hour we toured the home and grounds. One of the things that amazes me most is the ability to be in any room, or almost anywhere on the park like grounds and not see a single other home! And just 10 minutes from downtown. One of the few homes you can see from the property is the home called Mt. Vernon just across the lake. I am struck by the similarities to that famous property...they both were built in 1929, they both resemble the famous Mt. Vernon, home to our first president, they both overlook the same White Rock Lake, both properties have acreage (while Mt. Vernon has 10 vs. Belle Nora's 2). Mt. Vernon is around 10,511 sq. ft. while Belle Nora is 6148 sq. ft. A major difference is the last price on Mt. Vernon as listed in MLS was \$32,500,000 (in April of 2010) and now Belle Nora is \$1,950,000.

I truly feel the time is NOW for this prestigious property to find a new owner. White Rock Lake has completed millions of dollars in renovations in recent years. The spillway is phenomenal, and just a short walk from the property. So few properties are as famous. Many of the famous Dallas homes with actual "names" are now public. The Belo Mansion is a public venue. The Degoyer Estate at the Arboretum is a public venue. Belle Nora and Mt. Vernon are still very much private homes.

Preservation Dallas is an advocate for this property and will be holding an event there this fall.

To view incredible photos of Belle Nora visit Bellenora.com. For any further information call Vicki White, 214.534.1305 or visit Vickiwhitehomes.com.

GARDEN CLUB NEWS

It Ain't Over Yet, Folks !!!

Sure it rained recently. But the drought is not broken by a long shot. We are so far behind that it will take many long, slow rains to even begin to recover. Unfortunately, long range predictions for rain are dismal. Trees need as much water as other plants, if not more so. But they reveal the ill effects of lack of water much more slowly. Consequently, when signs of distress do finally appear, the damage is already done. For trees, look for dead leaves, dropped limbs or leaves dropping at the wrong time of year. In worst case scenarios, a tree will simply fall over, such as the one shown below. The drought's damage will not be fully revealed until next Spring.

To protect your trees, deeply water the ground beneath the branch canopy. For all but newly planted trees, water is not taken up around the base of the trunk, so water away from the trunk. This avoids creating conditions ripe for the growth of harmful fungi at the base of the trunk. Let the ground dry out between waterings. If a screwdriver penetrates the soil six inches, adequate moisture is present. If the screwdriver will not go in at all, or only an inch or two, water is needed.

Trees add aesthetic beauty and financial value to our homes. Taking many decades to grow, they are not quickly replaced. Each of us is the caretaker of our portion of the community forest.

– Leon Russell



“WILL YOU STEP UP?”

Looking back, we've had it easy over the last few years. We've had sufficient rain, and we've all been lulled into thinking that the trees in our medians can magically take care of themselves. We haven't mulched, we've done only minimal pruning, and all has been relatively fine, barring the occasional wind storm. But this drought, which is forecasted to last for years, is a game changer, and our trees need our help. Candidly, we all should have stepped up sooner, and the results of our failures can be seen by anyone who drives down Forest Hills Blvd. We lost a large tree and big limbs to a minor storm. This should be a wake-up call. More trees will be damaged or lost if we do not step up and provide them with the basic care they need. Yes, some efforts are already being made to address this problem. Everyone should applaud those who have contributed time, money or hard work to spreading much-needed mulch. And to those few homeowners who have dragged hoses across to the medians and watered our trees, we owe them a special thanks. But we need more volunteers like you because much more needs to be done. So, everyone, look around and figure out what YOU can do to help. These trees belong to ALL of us, and ALL of us have the obligation as caretakers to help them survive. They contribute so much to our neighborhood -- the least we can do is care for them.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE 'HOOD

Generous neighbors and friends give of their
time, water, mulch and money to save Forest Hills' Trees...

just a few of many who helped.....



Terri Higgins - Santa Clara Angel



San Leandro Farmer: Gary Grass Wife: Eileen



*Helen Kelley and husband Casey put down
mulch donated by Lindsey Tree Service
www.lindseytreeservice.com 214.553.0707*



*Gary Grass, Helen Kelley, Eileen Grass
Proud adoptive parents of Breezewood/San Leandro Median*



*Rohde's Nursery sent help and free mulch.
www.beorganic.com 972.864.1934*



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YARD OF THE MONTH

for September 2011

Congratulations to Michelle Cheney and Charles Kinsolving at 8447 Santa Clara for the September Yard of the Month! Check out how they completely renovated their front yard with wonderful xeriscape plants, walkways and grass. Your neighbors appreciate your effort!



YARD OF THE MONTH

for October 2011

The yard of the month for October has been awarded to Craig and Diana Cox at 8539 San Pedro. Their yard is beautifully landscaped and maintained which hasn't been an easy task this year. Thank you for helping keep our neighborhood beautiful.



SENIOR SOCIAL

All Seniors are invited to come to the Annual Forest Hills Senior Social

November 6, 2011, 2-4 pm
8516 San Leandro Drive

Please RSVP to Katrina Moran, 214-660-0451 or 214-280-8915 or katcancook07@yahoo.com.

Transportation can be arranged if you call by November 4th.

“The Backstage Quartet” will be performing and delicious homemade snacks will be provided by the Forest Hills neighbors.

***Volunteers are needed to host and provide food. Please call or e-mail Katrina.*

***10 Junior Hosts are needed, any student in the neighborhood who needs community service hours is welcome to volunteer, parents are encouraged to volunteer as well but it is not required.*

WHO IS YOUR BLOCK CAPTAIN?

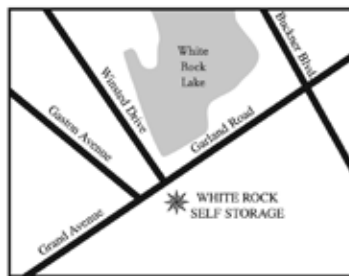
The FHA cannot express gratitude for its Block Captains. They are the intrepid but unsung heroes who deliver the FHA newsletter and other important information to our doors through rain, sleet and snow. They can answer many questions about the neighborhood, especially if you are new to Forest Hills. Your BC will be the name listed under your street and block number. The first name listed is the Lead BC. Additional names, if any, are Backup BC's. Block captain coordinator Lori Hunt Fhnabcc@aol.com.

Corday		8200	Patty Goya	8400	Tamela Southan
1700	Debbie Knight		Melodie Young		Dorinda Duncan
Eustis Ave.		8300	Jeanne Dooley	8500	Katrina Moran
8500	Andie Comini		Lenore Locascio	San Pedro Parkway	
Forest Hills Blvd.		8400/8500	Lori Josselyn	8400	Rana Pascoe
8100	Mary Pat Smith	San Cristobal Drive		8500	Diana Cox
8200	Josy Collins	8000-8100	Kelly Miller	San Rafael Drive	
	Barbara Clay	8200	Molly Grogan	1200	Bob & Carolyn Jones
8300	Kathy Glenn	8300	Doug Mourer	1400 - 1465	Kathy Wall
8400 (even #)	Pat & Karen Hess		Lottie Minick	1507 - 1623	Shelly Clem
8400 (odd #)	Lori Hunt	San Fernando Way		Santa Clara Drive	
8500	Rick Sorrells	8100	Debbie Jenevein	8100	Martine Buhmann
	Margaret Sorrells	8200	Gina Bender		Darla Hodge
Garland Rd.			Kim Hammond	8200	Vicki Burns
8100	Bob Jones	8300	Mary Deighton		Courtney Slusher
8200	LuAnn Tunell		Tricia Heaney	8300	Terri Higgins
8300	Joan Shopoff	8400	Jo Kirksey	8400	Barbara Michaels
8400	Judi Boyles		Debbie Gilmore	8500	Alise Platt
Groveland		8500	Sue Benner	St. Francis	
8500	Debbie Knight	San Leandro Drive		1600	Lori Josselyn
Highland Road		8000-8100	Marvel Kiewit	Whittier Ave	
1300-1500	Bob Quaglia		Linda Ortman	1500	Diana Cox
	Sharon Shero	8200	Eileen Grass	1700	Andie Comini
San Benito Way		8300	Sharon Hill		
8100	Susan Bailey		Kelly Kemp		

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LISTING OF FHA OFFICERS – COMMITTEE CHAIRS - LIAISONS

FHA President

Leon Russell
fhnapresident@aol.com

FHA Vice-President

Rick Sorrells
fhnavp@aol.com

FHA Treasurer

Gary Grass
fhatreasurer@aol.com

FHA Secretary

Alexis Sullivan
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Beautification Chair

Barbara Michaels
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Service League Chair

Lori Hunt
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Crime Watch Chair

Judy Whalen
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Communications Chair

Katie Meadows
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Planning & Zoning Chair

Rick Sorrells
fhnazoning@aol.com

Membership / Newcomers Chair

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fhnanewcomers@aol.com

Children's Network Chair

Amanda Johnson
fhchildrensnet@aol.com

Animal Alert!

Andie Comini
andiecomini@aol.com

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8329 San Leandro



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