

THE Communiqué

September – October 2010 www.foresthillsdallas.org



Leon Russell, FHNA President

Presidential Thoughts . .

If you are reading this, I am sorry, because it likely means that you are here in Dallas "enjoying" this August heat. But, rest assured, cooler times are ahead. On September 30, 2010, we will reprise the huge success of the Spring General Meeting with the **Fall Meeting at the Times Ten Cellar Annex on Thursday at 7:00 p.m**. Two speakers will offer clever ways to cut landscape watering bills. A free glass of wine or other beverage will be offered to every adult attendee. Annual elections will also be held at this meeting. We are especially looking for someone to head the Children's Network, a Parliamentarian, a Vice-President, and President-Elect.

On a more immediate and definitely concerning note, each of you should have been contacted by now by your Block Captain concerning the state of our alleys. Many are not in compliance with City Code. Nevertheless, the City has continued alley trash pickup service. But as a first indication of change, City Sanitation switched some Forest Hills streets to front curb trash service and strongly implied that it might move all of Forest Hills to front curb trash pickup if the condition of the alleys doesn't improve. The City has already switched several nearby neighborhoods, including Little Forest Hills and Lakewood, to front curb service. Once lost, restoring alley service is not easy. Consequently, we do not want to lose alley trash pick-up service because the negative effects on the quality of life in Forest Hills will be far reaching. A tremendous amount of work has already gone into the efforts, addressing this issue with the City. John Mitchell, our Planning and Zoning Chairman, has been a key player in those discussions with the City. Both John and I also discussed the issue at length in the last FHA newsletter (which is available on the FHA website).

All Forest Hills block captains have been armed with a color-coded map, the applicable City Code requirements, and other information needed to help them help you address the conditions in your alley. To clear up a common misconception, each landowner (not the City) is responsible for the condition of their side of the alley to its centerline. For the moment, the City is waiting to see the outcome of our alley cleanup efforts before deciding what to do. If you are not sure what must be done, or you are not able to reach your block captain, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Service League Calendar of Events

Sept. 30 — General FHA Meeting — Times Ten Cellar Election Campaign / Nominees

Oct. 5 — Animal / Security Fundraiser — Pet Blessing / Micro Chip etc

- Oct. 23 Walk & Wag
- Oct. 24 Senior Social

Oct. 30 — Saturday Fall Fest

Nov. — Board Elections / New Board induction

Nov. — FHA Fun Run / Walk — Beautification fundraiser

Dec. 4th — FHA Holiday Tree Lighting

Feb. — TBA General FHA Meeting

Katrina & Mark Moran Hosting

Mar. / April — FHA Spring Fling — Easter Hunt

May — Memorial Day — BBQ / Cook out for our local veterans

July 4 — FHA Parade / Picnic

Check inside and the website for dates/times.

Volunteers needed for all occasions call Shelly Clem — 214-837-8419

Feb. — Service League — Wine Tasting Event —



Vicki White

REAL ESTATE NEWS

REAL ESTATE NEWS - WHERE IS OUR MARKET NOW?

Now that the First Time Home Buyers tax credit of \$8,000 is over, and the \$6,500 move up tax credit for existing home owners is over, the real estate industry is trying to find its footing, to see where we really are. With the stimulus from the Feds, the first part of the year was really strong. Much of that was due to the "beat the tax credit deadline", however probably as much as 50% of it had nothing to do with the stimulus. We will now see how the market does without Federal stimulus.

WHY SHOULD I SELL MY HOUSE FOR LESS??

If you purchased your house in 2005 or 2006, your home is probably valued at significantly less than it was when it was purchased. Since 1985 home equity has been increasing steadily. By the year 2000 it began rising at a more rapid pace. Just

like with stocks, if you had sold at the "right" time; i.e. 2005 or 2006, you would have made a great profit from your equity. However, by 2007 the decline started and has continued to decline at a rapid pace ever since.

Different Economists disagree as to whether the housing market has bottomed yet. Dallas is experiencing a new wave of foreclosures that are certainly hurting our values and appraisals. House values are down. Many Sellers are having a hard time coming to grips with not getting all their money back out of their house. Sellers start listing all the improvements they have made and what they have invested in their house. So, why on earth should you sell under these conditions? First, it is predicted that it may be 10 years before our prices are considered robust again. Do you want to wait it out that long? In a recent speech by Steve Brown to real estate agents on August 3rd, he stated, TURN OFF THE RADIO AND TV! Values in Dallas are only considered to be down 5%, not like the 20% nationally. The Metroplex is strong and stable. The real estate market has flattened, which means the upturn is going to start.

Now for the GOOD NEWS! The house you may want to purchase will likely be way down in price as well. Plus, with the 11.5% increase in inventory, you have so many options to choose from! Add to that the unbelievable interest rates, and you are better off selling at what you would consider a loss in your equity and getting into the house you want at a much reduced price than a few years ago, plus at a MUCH LOWER interest rate.

Recently, Christian Johnson, Vice President of Shelter Mortgage stated that a 15 year fixed note had an interest rate of 3.75%. A 30 year Fixed was 4.125%. This is nothing short of HISTORICAL! Is there anyone out there that remembers the 1980's when interest rates were in the mid teens and Sellers had to pay multiple points to buy down those rates?? 11% and 13% were norms. With the interest rates we are experiencing today, a Buyer can get much more house than they could at even a 6% rate. It is predicted that the rates will remain low for the remainder of the year.

Here is an example of how the difference in interest rates can change your entire housing scenario...

If you purchased a house for \$200,000 at an interest rate of 6.5% vs. purchasing a house for \$400,000 at an interest rate of 4.25%, your house payment would not be substantially different!

But, just remember, they can go up in a blink and when they do it is too late to take advantage of the low rates!

FOREST HILLS STATS:

Currently 27 properties listed for sale ranging from \$282,000 to \$1,465,000

17 properties sold in the last 6 months ranging from \$198,955 to \$1,265,000

Written by: Vicki White vickiwhitehomes.com 214-534-1305

A Message From Mother Nature

By Mother Nature

In this summer of 3-digit temps, don't hug a tree — water one instead! Young trees need more water to survive the summer, especially during hot spells. Grass and other plants out-compete young trees for water because trees need more time to establish roots. Our young trees are dehydrating. Many times when dehydration symptoms of brown leaves and falling leaves appear it is often too late.

It is recommended watering young trees with a hose, for at least 10 minutes, two to three times per week when there is no rain in sight. Do not rely on your sprinkling system to do the job, as it won't.

Here's to keeping the forest in Forest Hills!

So Long, Sweet Neighbor



Only those who try the ridiculous achieve the impossible — Don Quixote

Surrounded by his loving family, D.J. left this earth on July 22nd, 6 days after suffering a heart attack. His robust energy and gregarious nature brought D.J. many loving friends throughout his life. Whether on the beach in Belize, sailing the Caribbean, or playing shuffleboard with his friends, D.J. enjoyed every person he met. He truly knew no strangers. D.J. was born in Chicago on September 2, 1941 to Mary Fay and William White. A graduate of Roosevelt University in 1967, D.J. married and moved to Dallas, which became his true home for the rest of his life. D.J.'s accomplished career in finance and marketing culminated in his role as Vice President at Republic Bank. He later established his own real estate company, founding O'Connor & White Real Estate in 1980. He continued to grow the business to its current success with his partner, Michael Simons. D.J. is survived by his beloved wife, Patricia Corrigan, and his loving children Daniel II (Alicia), Kelly (James Dutka), David (Marita), and step-children Todd Blanchard (Sarah) and Neal Blanchard. Memorial donations in D.J.'s honor may be made to the charity of your choice or to the Humane Society of Dallas County.

From time to time in life, if you are fortunate, you encounter special people. D.J. was one of those special persons. D.J. and his wife Pat lived five doors down. D.J. could be seen in the Forest Hills neighborhood almost every day, usually with his

favorite dog Jack, either walking or with Jack riding beside him on the front seat of their golf cart. If you were outside and he saw you, D.J. would stop and talk, including to the children who were drawn to gentle Jack. If children asked, they might be favored with a ride in the golf cart. They seemed to appreciate that D.J spoke with them as equals. It was also D.J.'s nature to jump at the chance to help others, often without being asked. A kind, friendly man, and a good neighbor. D.J. will be missed.

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A Great Big Thanks . . .

The 4th of July 2010 was a great success again this year thanks to . . .

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Keller, Gloria Castill & Family, Justin Bowden Fitness, Randy Smith & Dee, Fling/Hille Family, Jack Unruh, Wes Gilpin, Forest Hills Security, Erlbacher Family, Beakley Family, Bakota Family, Fire Station #31 Casa Linda, FTLOTL Duck "Rocky 2", Barb Michaels, Joan Shopoff, Alfonso's Italian Restaurant, Cigarz Pizza

Please note that many are repeat volunteers and vendors. There are so many others that I may have not mentioned but please know you are so appreciated and needed to make every function a success!

Photo credits: Lottie Minnick, Nina, Shelly Clem, Judy Whalen



Dues Appreciation

by Leon Russell

January of each year, annual dues notices are sent to the approximately 600 households in Forest Hills. Below is a list of those who have responded to date. On behalf of the Forest Hills Neighborhood Association, please accept my sincere thanks to each and every one of you. Without your support, the Association would not be able to provide the extra services that make it a better place to live. Because the Association is staffed entirely by volunteers, every dollar of dues is a dollar available for improvements or services in your neighborhood. We would obviously love to have 100% dues participation because the higher the support the more we can accomplish. To encourage greater dues participation, the Association intentionally keeps the annual dues low, at just \$50 per year, per household. Even though we are past the mid-point of the calendar year, it is never too late to pay dues by sending a check made out to the Forest Hills Neighborhood Association, P.O. Box 180897, Dallas, TX 75218. If your name has inadvertently been left off the list, please accept my apology and notify either me at 214-324-9940 or Gary Grass, Co-Treasurer, at 214-324-7295 so our records can be corrected. Thanks again to all who have participated.

FHA Dues Paid for 2010 (July 4th and August)

Barbara Adamson Frances Addison John & Susan Albach Monte Hill Alexander Bill & Dana Almquist Sharon Amacker Chuck & Annette Anderson Roy & Barbara Anderson Mike & Crystal Androvett Jack & Korbet Annis **Richard & Kathleen Arthur** Stephen Babler Edward Baca Elaine Bailey Steven & Meghan Bakota **Ron Balentine** Jeff Barfoot John & Mary Beakley Earnie & Ginny Beasley Gloria Benavides Paul & Gina Bender Sue Benner Kenneth R. Bernstein Joseph III & Carrie Bevers James Bibb Todd & Sarah Blanchard Bruce Borrett William & Judi Boyles Steven & Carmen Bremer Jesse & Beverly Brin Craig & Anna Brinker Garry & Susan Brown Billy & Josephine Brown Win & Keren Bruning Moreas Buchanan David & Martine Buhmann Kelle & Cary Buresh Larry & Vicki Burns Vicki Carusi John & Peggy Casey Barbara Clay Paul & Patricia Colacecchi Clifton Collins Marty & Josy Collins Andie Comini Craig & Diana Cox Herb & Bettye Creamer Mitchell & Amy Crenshaw Eric & Lynn Cromartie Dan Daily John Davis Clayton Devin Steve & Tammy DeWolf Jennifer Dickerson J.R. & Dot Dickey

Rick & Lolis Dignan Dean & Anna Dominguez Jeanne Dooley Bill & Brenda Dunklau Julie Dunn Kav Ellington Skip & Susan Erlbacher James & Grace Evans Jason & Kate Fagelman Paul & Lynne Ferguson Bill & Mindy Foerster Robert & Rocky Ford Richard Garbell Geoff & Nelli Gerard **Richard & Maria Giangiulio** Gary & Dawn Gibson Dallas & Gwen Gilbreath Andrew & Berkeley Gillentine Brent & Denise Glass Peggy Glenn-Summit Gary Goodwin Kevin & Laura Graham Gary & Eileen Grass Peter Hajek Shane & Kim Hammond Donna Hanes Max Hardesty Liz Harrison Bert & Cindy Headden Jay & Diane Heimburger David & Leslie Herman Lee Higgins Bill & Sharon Hill Van & Anne Hill Chuck & Darla Hodge Charles Hollingsworth Edwin Howell Edith Howson La Verne Huckaby Rajeev & Shelby Jacob Christopher & Sheryl Janning J. Craig Jett Wanda Joffrion **Darriel & Michelle Johnson** Victor & Carolyn Johnson Robert & Carolyn Jones Robert & Lisa Jones Muditha Karunatileka Jack & Candy Kellam Mary Kelly Eric & Kelly Kemp Marvel Kiewitt Scott & Jo Kirksey George & Debbie Knight Charles & Philis Knox

Michael Koesling Keenan & Crystal Kolendo KC & Jodi Kronbach Rush & Elizabeth Kummer Joe & patty Laakman Tim & Amy Laczkowski Juris & Carolyn Laivins Steve Lamberti Brad & Lori Lee John & Peggy Leeman Wim Van Lerberghe Elana Lowry Ronald E. & Patti Lusk Holly Lynch Dennis & Kim Maher Thomas & Jana Manders Michael & Eryn Mangum Raffi & Susan Mavelian Andv Maver Ron & Carol McDowell Greg & Christie McFarland Robert & Marian Merryman Kathleen Messina Barbara Michaels Fred & Volene Miller George & Frankie Milner Bob & Lottie Minick John & Camilla Mitchell Monique Vander Molen Jeff & Terry Moody Kevin & Anita Moran Bryon & Winter Morrison Douglas & Mari Anne Mourer Julie Muenzler Tom & Dana Mullins Doneita Myers John & Courtney Naudo Ronald & Alessandra Neal Beverly Negri-Garbell Carla Niemann Joseph J. & Colleen Norton Marci Novak Jim & Jeannine O'Bannon John C. & Sarah O'Brien Robert & Tessa Oglesby Shay Ometz Daniel & Linda Ortman John & Rana Pascoe Dorothy Patterson David & Carol Payne Lalon and Pamela Peale Matthew & Kathryn Perron Richard & Dorothy Pherigo Teri Pierce **Rick & Ginny Pope**

Ruth Potter Jason & Jill Pumpelly Robert Quaglia Keith & Pam Quarterman Terry & Greta Rees Bill & Kimberly Reister Griselda Rocha Linda Rothstein Sharon & Leon Russell Thomas Rylan Mary Scallorn Allen & Mary Schaar Tammy Schacknow April and Jason Sellers John & Gladys Shankles Chuck & Jennifer Sharpe Dollie Shepherd Sharon Shero Steve & Joan Shopoff Michael & Mary Simons Doug & Gina Sims Vincent Slusher Stephen & Margaret Smith Larry & Diane Solomon Rick & Margaret Sorrells Chris & Tamela Southan Douglas & Barbara Stapleton Jim & Joyce Stempak John & Lou Stephens John Stuart Terri Stull-Higgins Bill Summit George & Gloria Tarpley Justin & Tamara Trail Gary & LuAnn Tunell Jack Unruh Carolyn Quan & Wim Vanlergughe Mark Vasquez Harry & Ellen Walker Steve & Molly Walters Cleal & Mitze Watts Robert & Susan Wells **Bvron & Rubv West** Judy Whalen Gerard & Cathy Whelan Glenna Whitling David Whitten Robert & Cleo Williamson Cline Young Gary & Melodie Young Hoong Nan Young Gary & Mary Ann Youngblood Ian & Meredith Zapata



SECURITY PAGE



THE FOREST HILLS SECURITY PROGRAM (FHSP)



FHSP Chairman, Judy Whalen FHSP Officer, Lucy Barnett

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

Ooops!

In the May-June newsletter a list appeared of households, which had contributed before June 5 to the Forest Hills Security Program's second quarter – Q2 (April, May, June).

It was our intention to thank everyone who makes our extended police patrol possible. We apologize to these residents whose pledges were not included in the report: Chris & Ashley Black, Bob & Anne Carlson, Andie Comini, Jen & Tracy Helms, Phillip & Shannon Juett, Mark & Katrina Moran, Mark & Elise Platt, Larry Rolle, Jeff & Jennifer Stephens, Grant & Kathy Wall, Ed & Susan Wisneski, Gary & Mary Ann Youngblood.

Please pledge to the safety and security of your family and neighborhood. Mail or deliver your \$60 quarterly pledge for Q3 (July, August, September).

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

The following list reflects all pledges for Q2, including names which were not previously listed because of an oversight or were received after the June 6 newsletter insertion. Note the current pledges for Q3 (July, August, September) will appear in the next newsletter.

Q2 (April, May, June) Security Supporters — Keeping Forest Hills Safe

Frances & Suzanne Addison Jean Akers John & Susan Albach Monte Hill Alexander Bill & Dana Almquist Patty Alvey & Don Henry Chuck & Annette Anderson Roy & Barbara Anderson Stephen Babler Elaine Bailey John & Mary Beakley Earnie & Ginny Beasley Chuck & Tracy Bedsole Paul & Gina Bender Chris & Ashley Black William & Judi Boyles Paul & Virginia Braden Ron Brauer Jesse & Beverly Brin Craig & Anna Brinker Chuck & Greta Brodsky Irwin & Terri Brown Win & Keren Bruning Doug & Jill Bryan Moreas Buchanan David & Martine Buhmann Kelle & Cary Buresh Larry & Vicki Burns Michael & Janine Carley Vicki Carusi Bob & Anne Carlson John & Peggy Casey Lorenzo & Gloria Castillo Barbara Clay & Ken Bernstein Marty & Josy Collins Andie Comini Craig & Diana Cox John Creuzot Eric & Lynn Cromartie Shreen & Heather Danamraj Chad & Betsy Demarco

Clayton Devin Steve & Tammy DeWolf Jennifer Dickerson **Rick & Lolis Dignan** Dean & Anna Dominguez Bill & Brenda Dunklau Paul & Kelly Dybala John & Mary Ehrenberger Jason & Kate Fagelman Paul & Lynne Ferguson Karen Fling & David Hille Bill & Mindy Foerster Nick & Samanmalee Foley Ken & Lucille Garms Geoff & Nelli Gerard Gary & Dawn Gibson Dallas & Gwen Gilbreath Andrew & Berkeley Gillentine John Gilliland & Lenore Locascio C.V. & Mary Ellen Glines Gary Goodwin & Kathleen Messina Richard & Kathleen Grandjean Gary & Eileen Grass James E. Gunter Shane & Kim Hammond Donna Hanes Max Hardesty Bert & Cindy Headden Tracy & Jen Helms Lee Higgins & Terri Stull-Higgins Bill & Sharon Hill Chuck & Darla Hodge Alan & Beth Howard Edwin Howell Edith Howson Bob & Rita Hughes Rajeev & Shelby Jacob Christopher & Sheryl Janning Darriel & Michelle Johnson Robert & Carolyn Jones Gerry & Jean Jones

Phillip & Shannon Juett Muditha Karunatileka Jack & Candy Kellam Eric & Kelly Kemp Patrick & Amy Kirby Scott & Jo Kirksey George & Debbie Knight Charles & Philis Knox Ken & Amy Kristofek Rush & Elizabeth Kummer Tim & Amy Laczkowski Juris & Carolyn Laivins Steve Lamberti Brad & Lori Lee Weston & Janis Loegering Nathan & Kristi Long Eric & Tatiana Lopez Elena Lowry Ronald E. & Patti Lusk Dennis & Kim Maher Thomas & Jana Manders Stephen Mark Andy Mayer & Linda Rothstein Robert & Marian Merryman Kathleen Messina & Gary Goodwin Barbara Michaels & John Davis Mike Miller & Kelly Nah-Miller **Bob & Lottie Minick** Patricia Mitchell & Roy Martinez Jeff & Terry Moody Mark & Katrina Moran Doug & Mari Anne Mourer John & Courtney Naudo Ronald & Alessandra Neal Carla Niemann & Dan Dailey John & Sarah O'Brien Daniel & Linda Ortman John & Rana Pascoe David & Carol Payne Matthew & Kathryn Perron **Richard & Dorothy Pherigo**

Mark & Alise Platt **Rick & Ginny Pope** C. Quan & Wim Van Lererghe Karen Raskopf & Jay Fosha Terry & Greta Rees James & Betty Riggs Courtney & Mary Roberts Larry & Gina Rolle Leon & Sharon Russell Thomas Ryan & Jeanne Dooley David & Adrienne Sams Marv Scallorn Allen & Marv Schaar Chuck & Jennifer Sharpe June A. Shipley Michael & Mary Simons Doug & Gina Sims Larry & Diane Solomon **Rick & Margaret Sorrells** Scott & Stephanie Sparks Jim & Joyce Stempak Jeff & Jennifer Stephens Bill & Peggy Summit Dale & Denice Swift Chris & Jennifer Turner Jack Unruh & Judy Whalen Mark & Claudia Vasquez Stan & Lezlie Vlasimsky Doug & Cindy Wabner Harry & Ellen Walker Grant & Kathy Wall Steve & Molly Walters Matt & Tina Westmorland Kristen Williams Lance & Lauren Williams Robert & Cleo Williamson Brian & Fran Wills Ed & Susan Wisneski Cline Young Gary & MaryAnn Youngblood

FOREST HILLS SENIOR SOCIAL

Please save the date and join us for the annual Forest Hills Senior Social.

Hosted by Bill and Mindy Foerster 8427 San Fernando Wav

October 24, 2010

2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Entertainment and refreshments will be provided courtesy of your Forest Hills Neighbors. If you plan to attend or if you need assistance to attend, please call Katrina Moran at 214-660-0451 or e-mail <u>katcancook07@yahoo.com</u>

> Sponsored by the Forest Hills Service League and Forest Hills Association Volunteers needed — please call Katrina at 214-660-0451

Tips From a Neighbor

by Leon Russell

Your child has come of driving age. They need wheels. Yet news of recalled vehicles hits the media virtually every week. So what advice do you give regarding what to buy? Or maybe you are looking for a vehicle for yourself. How can you be sure that it isn't the subject of a recall? In fact, how do you know that the car you are driving right now hasn't been recalled? If a model vehicle has been recalled, the manufacturer is legally obligated to mail notices of the recall to the last known address of each owner. Unfortunately for vehicle owners, the manufacturer's legal obligation to notify the owner ends once the recall notices go in the mail. The practical reality is that only about 20-40% of such recall notifications actually reach the current owner. This means that owners (or would be owners) would be wise to check the recall history for a vehicle they own or are considering buying. One place to look is the website of the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA). Among other things, this federal agency tracks and post information regarding vehicle recalls. See NHTSA's home page at http://www.nhtsa.gov/ for general information, including news about recalls. For recall information specific to a vehicle you are interested in, go to http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/recalls/recallsearch.cfm. A less complicated website to use is http://www.autorecalls.org/. Either way, if you discover that a vehicle which you currently own or are interested in buying has been recalled, take the vehicle to one of the manufacturer's dealers along with a copy of the website page discussing the recall. The dealer should either fix the problem or provide you with written confirmation that the fix has already been made.

Downhill Slide Clinic

2nd Year Function

Skateboard Safety Techniques to Control High Speed Stops Ages 10 and up • October 7, 2010 (12 pm–4 pm) 1623 San Rafael Child(ren) must be accompanied by a parent





TRAFFIC SAFETY SPOT CHECKS

For those of you whose property is near stop signs, street or other traffic signs, please check if they can be seen well by approaching vehicles. Many of these signs in our neighborhood are obstructed by overgrown bushes or trees and are in need of a little preventative pruning.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE ALLERATION TEXAS HOUSE DISTRICT 107



Donna, Morgan, Allen and Jonathan

"Legislative Action Award" –Texas PTA *"Child Advocacy Award"* –Texas Pediatric Society *"Legislative Advocate"* –Texas Police Chiefs Association *"Law and Order Award"* –Texas District and County Attorneys' Association

Proud to Represent the Forest Hills Neighborhood

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political ad paid for by the Elect Allen Vaught Campaign, Gavin Kazsynski, Treasurer



Ready, set, go: It's time to Walk, Wag & Run

October 23 — lakewoodserviceleague.org

DALLAS – The seventh annual Walk, Wag & Run event, presented by Doctors Hospital at White Rock Lake, Advocate Magazines, and Innova, will offer fun and fitness for runners, families and their dogs on Oct. 23 at Doctors Hospital on Poppy Drive near White Rock Lake. Hosted by the Lakewood Service League, this community festival includes 5K and 10K races, a dog agility walk, a 1K dash for the kids, pet adoptions and plenty of Halloween and canine-friendly entertainment.

What began as a neighborhood dog walk has grown into a popular, family-oriented event that is expected to draw 1,500 plus people from across the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

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\$1,385,000



8310 San Benito Way

\$599,000



8409 San Fernando Way Lot Only

\$495,000

Now That Forest Hills Has an Arborist — What Can We Expect When We Contact Them?

Arborilogical Services, Inc. has been selected as the arborist, or tree care company for the Forest Hills Neighborhood Association. Almost immediately the obvious question was asked, "What can the residents of Forest Hills expect when they call Arborilogical Services?" Residents should expect access to experts in all areas of tree care when they develop a relationship with Arborilogical Services.

A call to Arborilogical Services begins a series of events designed to assess the needs of clients and their trees, offer options, and execute the desired tree care services. Arborilogical Services wants to be the tree care experts that you can count on for professional advice to help you achieve important long-term management goals for your trees. Expect these steps when you call:

Account set-up and establishment of client's needs — Our Client Service Representatives will create your account, set an appointment with one of our Certified Arborists, and briefly discuss your tree care needs to determine what services listed below you are seeking:

- Tree Pruning to Exacting Standards
- Cabling and Bracing
- Tree Removal and Stump Grinding
- · Consultation, Diagnostic and Inspection Services
- Certified Arborist Site Visits
- Root Flare Excavation
- Complete Maintenance Programs
- Deep Root Fertilization
- Disease and Insect Control
- Oak Wilt Treatment and Management
- Tree Surveys, Appraisals, and Expert Witness Testimony

Property visit and recommendations from one of our Certified Arborists — A Certified Arborist will visit your property and meet with you to discuss your tree care issues. The arborist will inspect your trees and make recommendations appropriate for the needs of your trees while reaching your desired personal goals. The property visit provides a baseline for managing your trees and their future needs. This collaborating is vital to the growth and development of your trees.

Work approval, scheduling, execution, and billing of work — After the arborist's visit, we will email, fax, or mail a written proposal. Upon your approval, our Production Scheduling Department will contact you to coordinate a date for the work to be completed. When the work is finished and you are completely satisfied, we process documentation for billing.s

Follow up programs — As a client of Arborilogical Services our desire is to give you a single location to assist you in caring for your trees. Our inspection program allows the arborist to pre-schedule property visits based upon you and your trees' needs. During an inspection, the arborist assesses the health and condition of your trees and prescribes services at the appropriate times without you having to remember to call your arborist. If you see anything out of the ordinary, have questions or concerns prior to scheduled inspections, please contact your arborist so that a specific visit can be scheduled. Potential services that might be prescribed are deep root fertilization, pruning, or disease and insect management.

Emergency Services — Texas weather is chaotic and can have devastating effects on trees. These emergencies range in severity from minor limb damage to "get the tree off of my house and car". During these times our focus shifts to meeting and addressing the needs of our existing clients. We are here to help resolve your emergency tree care situation quickly and professionally.

The staff and management at Arborilogical Services, Inc. look forward to serving the Forest Hills community, and providing your trees with the highest quality and value in tree care.

Steve Houser • 972-442-1524 • www.arborlogical.com Ask about the Forest Hills Discount!

The Spillway Does its Spillway Thing

By Bruce Felps

This morning's dedication ceremony commemorating the new and improved White Rock Lake spillway went about as expected.

Dignitaries sat on a makeshift stage set up in the expanded parking lot along Winsted Drive and awaited their turns at the microphone.

About the only surprises came in the relative few references to the lake as the "jewel of Dallas" — only four that I counted — and in the relative brevity of the of the speeches. The whole thing was over in less than an hour.

It seemed a bit awkward to me to hear "The Star Spangled Banner" without the crowd shouting "STARS!" at the word's mention in the anthem, but I'm a hockey fan. It also seemed a bit odd to see a large Dallas Park and Recreation Department banner up on the stage but no Dallas Water Utilities sign when that body owns the lake.

Today's dignitaries included Jody Puckett, director of Dallas Water Utilities; Mayor Tom Leppert; District 9 City Councilman Sheffie Kadane; Joan Walne, president of the Dallas Park and Recreation Board; Paul Dyer, director of the park department; and Susan Hello, executive director of the Greater East Dallas Chamber of Commerce and president of For the Love of the Lake, who was losing her voice and had to take throat lozenges to make it through the ceremony.

The eyebrow-raising moments came when Kadane talked about the importance of the lake and its environs to the citizens at large, particularly "when we have tough times, like we're coming up on, folks go to these places when they can't go elsewhere." He probably was talking about the pending city budgets cuts and diminished services in the face of another \$130 million shortfall, but I couldn't help but wonder if he knows something we should.

The awkward on-stage moment occurred when Dyer thanked Puckett for all she and the water utility have done for the park department, like, "She's our banker; she gave us money for two golf courses," and Puckett sat behind him making cut gestures across her throat with her hand. Ah, those wacky city people.

The Texas flag on stage played havoc with Dyer and Walne, whipping around in the wind and smacking them in the head.

Then there was the big finish. Three or four sizable plumes of water shot up from the lake, periodically cascading a fine mist on the crowd. It was a temporary fountain effect created for the ceremony.

At the conclusion of all the speeches, the dignitaries moved to a large valve next to the stage, cranked said valve, and the fountain ceased to flow.

But then, what's a giant water valve doing in a parking lot? Serving as a ceremonial prop, as it turned out.

Many thanks to my friend and former co-worker Kate Mackley who, out of the goodness of her heart, accompanied me to the ceremony and served as the East Dallas Times Photographer.





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Multi Family Home in Forest Hills

A Little Birdie Told Me

The 12 year old house at the intersection of San Pedro and Whittier was condemned by Mother Nature and up in its place has sprung a new multifamily home!

With half a roof on the second story, the tenants on the bottom floor had left and vagrant ants had



moved in.

Up with the new! Not quite as pretty, but practical. Good Housekeeping Seal of Approval!





Get a Free Irrigation System Check-Up!

As a service to our customers, Dallas Water Utilities is conducting FREE automatic irrigation system checkups. The American Water Works Association (AWWA) has determined that homes with in-ground automatic irrigation systems use 35% more water than those without irrigation systems. And those households using automatic timers for their irrigation systems use 47% more than their neighbors with in-ground systems operating their systems manually.

Poor irrigation scheduling (watering too often and for too long) is the primary source of water waste associated with landscape irrigation. You may be using a lot more water than your lawn needs and if you are a Dallas Water Utilities customer, you can have a FREE irrigation system check-up by a certified landscape irrigation specialist. These check-ups have saved other customers hundreds of dollars per year on their water bill. These check-ups can help improve the efficiency of your existing irrigation system by identifying: programming errors, leaks in the system broken or misaligned equipment, problems with pressure (too high or too low) and coverage problems.

The Irrigation Specialists will also make recommendations such as: programming suggestions, turf water requirements, possible equipment upgrades and repair and maintenance tips.

Our goal in Water Conservation is to help you save water! All suggestions are subject to the homeowner's discretion, but each suggestion will save you money.

For more information or to schedule your automatic sprinkler system check-up, call (214) 670-3155 or use our sign-up form www.ci.dallas.tx.us/forms/water conservation irrigation and you will be contacted by one of our licensed irrigators.

www.whiterockartists.com October 16/17, 2010



PAWS PAGE



Sponsored by East Lake Veterinary Hospital

Pet Blessing and Micro Chip Clinic for Forest Hills and Little Forest Hills Pets!

Father Dan Clayton, the Catholic Chaplin at Methodist Medical Center Dallas will be presiding and blessing the pets. Dogs • Cats • Hamsters • Turtles • Rabbits • Etc!!!

This event is sponsored by your Animal Alert! Program. Donations GLADLY ACCEPTED!

Forest Hills Security and Social/Service Leagues will also be there!

Please be sure all dogs are on a leash and cats in cat carriers, etc.

Lots of trees to tie your pooch to if need be and shade for all.



Water will be provided for you and the pets.

Animal Alert! will be set up to register your pet(s)! Please bring a photo of your pet that we can attach to the information sheet. Help us help you if your pet should ever get lost.



Offering DISCOUNTED Micro Chipping- \$40 per pet! DATE: Tuesday, October 5 2010

Sponsor: East Dallas Veterinary Clinic (214) 328-9935

TIME: The FUN starts at 6:30 PM and the Pet Blessing starts at 7:30 PM LOCATION: St. Francis Park — St. Francis and the 8400 block of San Benito Way



Spotlight On Our Neighbor, Lulu Wise

by Lottie Minick



I gave our neighbor, Ronnie Wise, a few questions for his goose, LuLu, to answer for our new feature, "Spotlight On our Neighbor."

Lottie: Lulu, how long have you lived in Forest Hills with your human, Ronnie and your dog, Bonnie?

LuLu: I moved to Forest Hills from Arkansas as a gosling in May of this year. Bonnie and I are great friends. We walk down San Cristobal together every evening with Ronnie.

Lottie: Are you a trained guard goose or natural?

LuLu: I consider myself more of a guard dog. Bonnie and I look after the place.

Lottie: Ronnie keeps a pristine yard. How does he manage with feathers and other droppings?

LuLu: Hey! I'm a goose, we make a lot of poop. It's what we do. There was one time when I went on a lady's shoe because I didn't like her, but usually I like everyone.

Lottie: Are you aware of the new trend in neighborhood chicken families and do you get along with other fowl and neighborhood owls?

LuLu: I'm way smarter than a dumb chicken. I recognize certain people, make up my own mind if I like someone and I'm loyal in protecting my family. Unlike chickens and some rude dogs, I am

nice and quiet and don't make a fuss which might disturb my neighbors. And as for owls and Thanksgiving, I try to keep a low profile.

Lottie: Are you aware neighbors were disappointed you had a previous engagement this 4th of July? May we ink you in as Grand marshal for our 2011 parade? You know you're the neighborhood's first choice.

Lulu: I accept the neighborhood's offer to be Grand Marshall. I'll have my social

FH ANIMAL ALERT! PROGRAM To report a Lost or Found Animal 214-930-5910 Animal Control Call 311 secretary, Ronnie, ink it in my calendar.



Yard of the Month

Yard of the Month for July was awarded to Sue Benner and Craig J. Jett 8517 San Fernando Way. Thanks for bringing such beautiful summer color to Forest Hills. It is always a pleasure to drive or walk by!



SPONSORED BY:

WELCOME NEWCOMERS!

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!

Webworms Are Killing Our Tree Branches



Webworms leave dead branches all over our trees.

A high-pressure water nozzle (that attaches to your garden hose) is available at your local hardware store. It will dislodge the webworms from the branches and then the cocoon and worms will fall to the ground and die. It is so easy to do to save the blight of dead branches on our trees.



Garden Glub News





Before

No Grass Grows Under Its Feet!

The Board authorized a \$1,000.00 to the Garden Club on Monday night to clean up the triangle parks at Santa Clara / San Pedro / Whittier and on Wednesday afternoon, whamo, it is done! Looks terrific! Perhaps you have more plantings to add yet but good work!

Leon R. Russell

Swift completion of this project is due to Mario Martinez (handyman for several of us) and his two helpers. They worked tirelessly for five hours to clean up the two spaces and then put on fifty bags of mulch. The object was to get rid of the weeds, bermuda grass and plants that weren't thriving. Many of us have spent

hours working in that space and knew this wasn't going to be a quick "pull a few weeds" project or inexpensive. Total cost was \$445.00 - well worth it!

Garden club is now discussing what can be done to make these two triangles as maintenance free as possible. This morning Shelly and I looked at the other areas in the neighborhood that need help and will get them weeded also.



After

The Forest Hills Garden Club thanks the board again for the vote and the money! Barb Michaels

The Garden club will be reconvening this September and our first meeting will be "Creative Arts Competition at the State Fair of Texas." Jeff Mason from neighboring Casa Linda Estates will be our speaker — he has won several blue ribbons! We are asking members to bring a dish (sweet or savory) wine or beverage of your choice, a friend who might like to join and your dues. Dues will be \$35.00 this year. We have several exciting meetings planned for this year so be sure to mark the date for our first one Thursday, September 9th at 7 pm. at the lovely home of Eileen Grass, 8247 San Leandro Dr.

Check future newsletters and our neighborhood website for details about meetings, dates and times.

Love Thy Neighbor

For The Love Of The Lake (FTLOTL) is a fourteen year old non-profit that has been supporting beautification of White Rock Lake through many events and activities. The most noteworthy is the "Second Saturday Shoreline Spruce-up."

The Forest Hills Neighborhood Association is a member of the Adopt-a-Shoreline program, cosponsored by Dallas Parks and Recreation Dept. and For the Love of the Lake. As a member, our neighborhood agrees to clean up our assigned area on a monthly basis. Our responsibility extends from the corner of Winstead and Garland Road east to the fishing pier across Garland Rd from White Rock Dr. Now that the new spillway observation area is complete, there will be high usage of the area.

It is a great volunteer activity for scouts or teens needing community service or for families who wish to set an example of volunteerism for their school age children.

Clean up can be done by as few as two or three volunteers or by a small group of 6 to10. From sign up and getting your supplies at the Casa Linda office of For the Love of the Lake to completing pick up, should not take longer than 1.5 to 2 hours. Forest Hills needs to book volunteers for Sept.11, Oct 9, Nov.13 and Dec.11. If you would like to help, but are not available on these "Second Saturdays", For The Love of the Lake office is now open from 8-noon EVERY Saturday, to accommodate special timing needs of groups and individuals.

Please call Joan Shopoff at 214 695-0219 or email her at jsshopoff@gmail.com. She will schedule and furnish all the details you need to show your love of the lake in this special way. She will be hosting an informal "thank you" celebration in Nov. or Dec. for all clean up volunteers.

White Rock Lake adds so much to Forest Hills' quality of life, as well as to its property values. To find out the latest details on parks and recreation or hike and bike trails, go to <u>www.dallasparks.org/parks/trails</u> and to know more about The Love Of The Lake (FTLOTL) go to <u>www.whiterocklake.org</u>.

Alex Sanger News

You may have noticed some activity over at Alex Sanger Elementary this summer. There are some major items being done by the bond project that should give the school a much needed facelift that includes the following types of work.

Landscaping and grounds

- Regrade the front portion of the campus and add new grass and plants at the front entry with irrigation
- Install new brick pavers

Exterior work

- · Add new playground equipment
- · New asphalt in the outdoor dining area
- Paint exterior trim of the building including; soffits, fascia, window frames, columns, handrails
- · Paint the entire modular annex building
- Add new exterior lighting
- · New masonry dumpster enclosure and new pad

Interior work

- · Replace all glass and glazing for the Gymnasium windows
- · Repair and reseal all other existing windows
- · Install new doors and hardware
- Complete renovation of student restrooms
- Replace existing boilers, chillers and install new air handling units in the Auditorium, Cafeteria, and IDF Room
- · Install new PA system and sound system in the Auditorium
- Paint corridor walls, metal lockers, Cafeteria, Auditorium, Stage, Gym and Administrative Offices

This should really improve both the function and appearance of our neighborhood school!





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