



FOREST HILLS NEWS

January - February 2019

www.foresthillsdallas.org



Wishing you a Happy 2019!



*Cover pictures are just some of the great Christmas Lights in Forest Hills.
Thanks to all our neighbors who share their decorations with everyone!*

FOREST HILLS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

White Rock Shore Spruce-Up 2nd Saturday each month

Newsletter articles and ads due Friday,

February 1st for March/April

BULK TRASH

January

Trash can go out Thursday 10- Sunday 13

With pick-up starting the week of Monday, January 14

February

Trash can go out Thursday 7- Sunday 10

With pick-up starting the week of Monday, February 11

http://dallascityhall.com/departments/sanitation/pages/brush_and_bulky.aspx

Good News Forest Hills!

Introducing our new President and Vice President!

Jeff Peterson, our new President, is taking over for Chris McCauley who after serving two years thankfully will remain very active in the FHNA. Chris did a wonderful job of balancing family, work and keeping Forest Hills on track during his time of service. Thank you Chris!

Our new Vice President, Jonathan Wood, is taking over for Jane Ojeda. Jane will continue her work as Co-Editor of the Forest Hills Newsletter. Thank you Jane!

Jeff and Jonathan have each lived in Forest Hills for several years and are very happy to become more involved in the neighborhood. Both have been visiting as to the needs and goals of Forest Hills and are excited to join forces. A big thank you to both Jeff and Jonathan for being willing to take leadership positions with our wonderful Neighborhood Association!



JEFF PETERSON
President



JONATHAN WOOD
Vice President

FHA Officers & Committee Chairs - Liaison

FHNA President

Jeff Peterson
jeffrey_m_peterson@sbcglobal.net

FHNA Vice President

Jonathan Wood
jonathanwood777@yahoo.com

FHNA Secretary

OPEN

FHNA Treasurer

Bruce Borrett
bborrett8538@att.net

FHNA Crime Watch Chair

Carol Lander

Membership / Newcomers Chair

OPEN

Service League Chair

OPEN

FHN Co-Editors

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janeojeda@fritzpak.com
Andie Comini
andiecomini@aol.com

Planning & Zoning Chair

Anita Childress
anita@txemploymentcouncil.com

Animal Alert! / Newsletter Editor

Block Captain Chair / Bulky Trash

Chair/ Garage Sale Chair

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Andie Comini
andiecomini@aol.com

Beautification Committee

Tim simmonds
t.simmonds@working-plants.com
Greg Stinson
gstinsonstudio@SBCglobal.net

Advertising

Brad huddleston
idrebin@yahoo.com

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Sharon Hill
sharon@tx.rr.com

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Alex Sanger Liaison

Wendy Habicht
mombolina@aol.com

FRI Liaison

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daniel.ortman@airmail.net

Arboretum Liaison

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It's that time of year! Time to pay your 2019 FHNA Dues

Your annual fees are used for:
The Newsletter, Animal Alert!
Fun Neighborhood Events
Community Beautification Projects

Your Annual Membership Fee
Residents under 65 - \$50 per household
Residents 65+ - \$30 per household

Pay homeowners dues either through PayPal or by check.
An envelope is enclosed for your use
Additional donations of any amount are always appreciated.

www.foresthillsdallas.org
FH Association PO Box 180897 Dallas, TX 75218
Please Contribute - Volunteer - be part of the FHNA spirit!

Spotlight on Sanger

**“Thank you and welcome to our new Sanger Elementary Liason, Wendy Habicht, *Mombolina@aol.com*.
Here's what Wendy has to share with us this issue.”**

Happy New Year! Now that the holidays are over, perhaps you have some extra time on your hands. If so, there are some wonderful opportunities to help the next generation right here in our own backyard. I have been volunteering for the past few years at Sanger in an afterschool literacy program called New Horizons. The program addresses the emotional, educational, and spiritual needs of underserved, at-risk elementary kids by providing a safe afterschool learning community for kids to belong throughout the school year. Mentors provide individualized reading support along with homework help. It has been a truly rewarding experience for me. To find out more, check out their website at <https://newhorizonsofntx.org>



Wendy Habicht



If you would prefer volunteering during school hours, Sanger has many opportunities. You can assist with school events, be a literacy tutor, chaperone field trips, prepare classroom materials, speak at career day, assist students in the library or computer lab, update the school garden, donate goods, services or funds, or support extracurricular activities. For more information about volunteering at Sanger you can visit the Dallas ISD website at <https://dallasisd.org>

**are you
IN?**

Forest Hills Security

Annual "SIGN IN" Day January 23

**ANNUAL
Membership
LEVELS**

- Ring of Honor - \$1,000
- Platinum - \$750
- Gold - \$500
- Silver - \$350
- Bronze - \$240

Check: Forest Hills Security Program (FHSP)
PO Box 180693
Dallas, TX 75218

Credit Card via PayPal:
www.foresthillssecurity.org

Payment Inquiry:
fhspcfo@aol.com

Home Watch Request:
fhspenp@aol.com

TAX DEDUCTIBLE

JANUARY						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 are you IN?	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



It's HERE!

One day to remember, 1-23! No excuses. Your day to contribute to the FHSP and the safety of your neighborhood. It's easy. Pay by mail or go online to www.foresthillssecurity.org. Choose your level and 1-23 click you are "IN".

Your annual participation allows the program to budget for the entire year and schedule the number of patrols needed in advance. Our officers are doing a great job, but we need to see them more frequently on our streets combating crime and promoting the message "Don't mess with Forest Hills!"

The Forest Hills Security Program DOES make a difference!

Crime has decreased significantly with your added participation. But we NEED to do better. We have been at 50% participation for a year, we need to rally and meet the challenge of 80% participation to have more police patrols making Forest Hills one of the safest communities in Dallas.

Your 2019 IN Challenge is here!

An opportunity to get IN at the highest level you can afford, Stay IN and encourage your neighbors to join IN.



joinUS!


Keeping Your Home Secure

If you are a Security Program member and are current on your payments, you have the benefit of using the Home Watch Program. When you are away for an extended period of time or your home is under construction or vacant, a patrol shift officer will check on your home according to your requests. The home watch form and instructions can be found online at foresthillssecurity.org or requested from fhspenp@aol.com.




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FRI / FHNA Introductory Column

Hi neighbors! I'm happy to begin this new recurring column to update our neighborhood on relevant news right outside our back door – the Ferguson Rd. corridor. Linda and I have supported the Ferguson Road Initiative (FRI) www.fergusonroad.org for years, but a few years ago, I got more personally involved during a heightened period of activity focusing on the long-planned White Rock Hills Community Recreation Center project. After a while, I became more immersed and joined the Board of this non-profit.

I realize that some of our neighborhood is already well aware of FRI, while others are not – as such, I'll take a bit of an introductory angle here.

The mission of FRI is to engage and empower a community of advocates to advance a safe, beautiful, prosperous and proud community.



For a small volunteer-based organization, it's managed to have a notable impact over the years, through effective advocacy, communication, connection, facilitation, coordination, partnering, lobbying, leadership and requesting funds.

Earlier this month there was a well-attended celebration for the 20th anniversary of FRI, which was founded by Vikki Martin. In addition to the nearly 200 attendees, community leaders and elected officials in attendance included; Mayor Mike Rawlings, Police Chief U. Renee Hall, Councilman Mark Clayton, State Rep. Eric Johnson, County Commissioner Theresa Daniels, Eastfield College Presidents, past and present, among others.

The next major milestone in FRI's list of accomplishments is the groundbreaking of the new White Rock Hills Park, located near the corner of Highland and Ferguson (2229 Highland Road). Here, the City of Dallas, in partnership with the Ferguson Road Initiative, broke ground on the park, Phase I of the future White Rock Hills Community Recreation Center (CENTER) project. FRI has long lobbied, advocated, coordinated and even helped design the forthcoming park. Phase I of the park is expected to be completed in 2019.

FRI highlights from the last twenty years of working together for the greater good in Far East Dallas:

- Working with 4 Dallas mayors, 5 city managers, 9 councilpersons and 5 Dallas police chiefs,
- Growing from 5 to 37 neighborhoods, homeowner associations, and crime watch and VIP programs,
- Receiving \$2.5MM in federal funding from the Department of Justice to fight crime (2000-2011),
- Establishing 1 new park, 1 skate park and 1 spray ground,
- Tearing down 1 crime magnet motel in 2005, demolished 3 crime and gang-ridden apartments,
- Helping reduce overall crime in target areas within the Ferguson Road Initiative boundary by 40%,
- Advocating with White Rock East, to build a new \$10MM wing to address overcrowding at G.W. Truett Elementary School,
- Serving 10,868 families with free income tax preparation services over 14 years, keeping \$19MM in our community via the VITA program
- Building the \$8.5MM White Rock Hills Library in 2012 through the city bond program; 287,016 library items checked out over the past year,
- Recruiting 3,658 volunteers who have donated 90,033 hours of service to FRI at a combined value of \$2,173,396,
- Publishing 31 free editions of "FRIdays" neighborhood news magazine and 240 "NewsFlash" e-newsletters,
- Facilitating \$245MM in quality economic development, in the form of affordable, middle and high income housing and retail,
- Providing 85 FRI Community Connection Town Hall & Weed & Seed Steering Committee meetings,
- Collecting 2,800 bags of trash in 11 Operation Beautification Litter Cleanup Events,
- Forging partnership with White Rock United Methodist Church to plan the community outreach for Owenwood Farm and Neighbor Space
- Participating in countless hours of meetings, hearings, E-Mails and phone calls to the City of Dallas, elected and appointed officials, as well as City staff



Additional upcoming developments that FRI advocates for are expected to include the later phases of the park development that will include the CENTER, the redevelopment and improvements of Highland Road, interconnection to the city trail system, intersection improvements at Lakeland, and perhaps most importantly a growing partnership with the Owenwood Farm and Neighbor Space

(<https://www.owenwood.org/>)

For more insight, take a look at the FRI website

(<https://www.fergusonroad.org/>), and consider joining or

supporting the organization that supports our neighborhood, and the rest of far East Dallas. Let me know if you have particular questions about FRI and I'll try to speak to those either offline, or in the next issue of the Forest Hills Newsletter. daniel.ortman@fergusonroad.org



Forest Hills Neighborhood Tree Lighting

A jolly time was had by all on Sunday, December 2nd at the annual Forest Hills Neighborhood Tree Lighting event. Residents caught up with each other over cocoa while the kids decorated ornaments. A children's Christmas train circled the event putting a smile on the face of every child that climbed aboard. And to the delight of all, Santa showed and visited with each child as to what their hopes and wishes were for Christmas while parents took pictures right and left!



And the energetic Forest Hills Security duo, **Judy Whalen** and **Carol Lander**, acknowledged newcomers by handing them a picture of their new home to wear around their neck thus making it easier for us to identify them and introduce ourselves. So many wonderful new people to our neighborhood!

Around 5:30, FHNA Past President **Chris McCauley** welcomed everyone and then led the children in a countdown to flip the switch on the tree lights. It was a glorious sight and a fine way to usher in the holiday season!

Special thanks to **Meredith Talley**, **Chris McCauley**, **Lara Huddleston** and **Andie Comini** for planning and coordinating the event.

To the many neighbors who helped set up and tear down, and helped in other ways we appreciate you too!

- Bob Lander**
- Brad Huddleston**
- Carol Lander**
- Carrie Bevers**
- Claire Talley**
- Gabriel Ojeda**
- Jane Ojeda**
- Jeff Peterson**
- Ketric Sanford**
- Lanhan Bevers**
- Officer Mike Mata**
- Randall Talley**

and numerous others that escaped our list!

A Holiday Thanks to All that Helped!





Forest Hills Cleanup Crew!

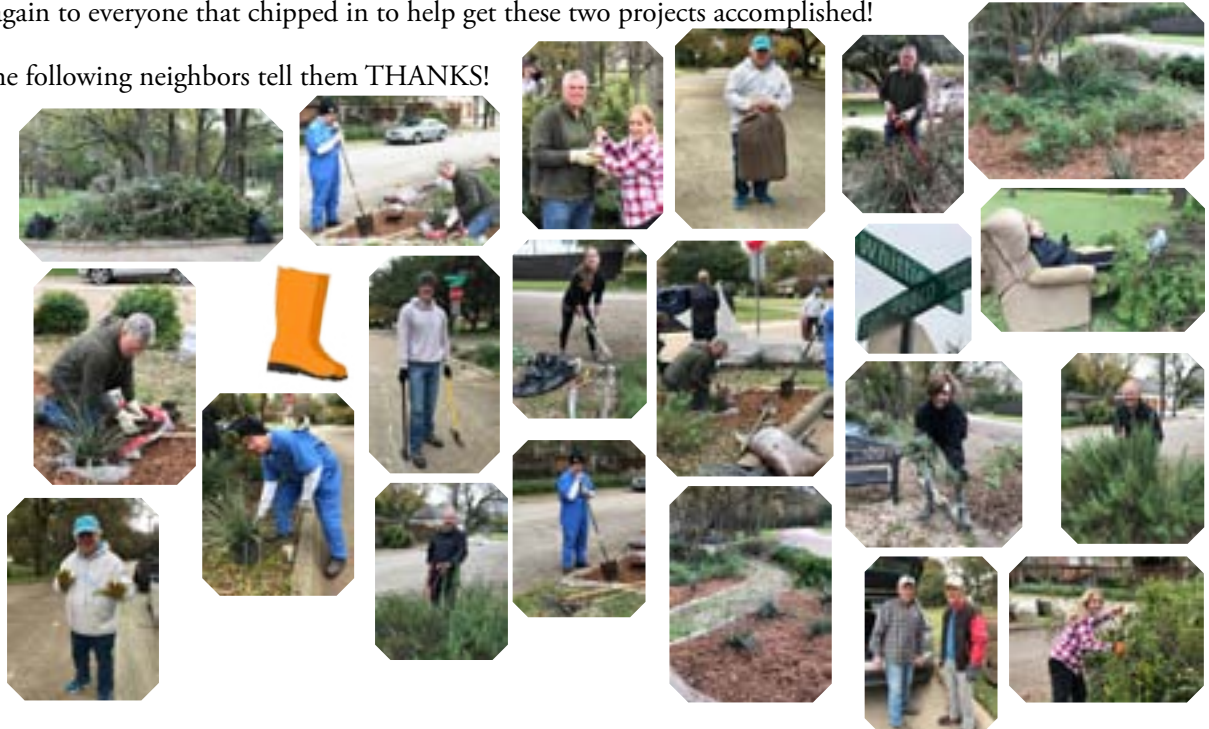


On a cold gray November 11th a dedicated group of Forest Hills residents and friends met to clean up two parts of the neighborhood in need of a little TLC.

They met at Whittier Ave/San Pedro Pkwy to clean and update the little triangle garden there while another group met to remove the large evergreen tree at the corner of St Francis Ave/Forest Hills Blvd that was impeding the sidewalk and a hazard for drivers. Thanks again to everyone that chipped in to help get these two projects accomplished!

Next Time you see the following neighbors tell them THANKS!

- Andie Comini
- Bill Frey
- Bob Lander
- Bruce Borrett
- Carol Lander
- Chris McCauley
- Doug Gilpin
- Greg Stinson
- Jeff Peterson
- Laurel Way
- Lucille Buckman
- Tim Simmonds



Spotlight on a Forest Hills Teenager Ashlyn Duy

Ashlyn Duy, 17, is a neighborhood kid who spent his early years at White Rock Montessori and now attends Bishop Lynch High School as a senior. A resident of Forest Hills for 6 years, he has spent many afternoons biking our streets with his little sister, Abigael, and walking his hound-mix Chewy.

A guy with many talents, Ash plays USTA and Varsity high school tennis, swims for the BL team, is a BL ambassador and presidential leadership council member. He maintains a 4.0+ average, while rehearsing his talents on the piano and is a member of the National Honor Society in Latin, English, Science, and Math. Ash is also a National Merit Commended Scholar. He has raised over \$30k for Children's Medical Center and counts teaching tennis via Acing for Autism as one of his favorite activities. He is also very interested in film and loves all things STAR WARS. Ash has been a part of the growth of "Studio Bella for Kids" here in East Dallas starting out as a camper many years ago when it was just starting out and moving to counselor and director this past summer. He credits his love of kids, art and out of box thinking to Studio Bella.



Ash has a great future ahead and is currently applying to University where he hopes to pursue Biochem and Film Production and perhaps minor in the classics.

**PARENTS: Want to nominate your teen for the Spotlight on a Forest Hills Teenager?
Contact Andie - andiecomini@aol.com**

ALLURE OF THE ARBORETUM

You probably already know the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden hosts the Southwest's largest floral festival each spring, Dallas Blooms. And common sense tells us there must be a lot of hard work that goes in behind the scenes to make such a magnificent display of flowers happen. But, did you know that more than 50,000 spring bulbs are laid out and planted throughout the 66-acre garden? This undertaking, one of the city's dirtiest jobs, takes 65 Arboretum staff members roughly 11,560 man hours to complete. The horticulture team must amend the soil, remove existing plants, compost, broadcast bone meal bulb fertilizer by hand, and add blood meal to deter rodents and birds. Only then are the beds ready for the bulbs to be planted in staggered rows from three to six inches apart. The final step is upkeep of the beds - well, that and the addition of approximately 100,000 pansies, violas, and other spring-blooming annuals and perennials to enhance the bulbs and enchant the eyes. So when you visit the garden for Dallas Blooms between February 23 and April 7 this year, take a moment to reflect on this picture of the hard-working horticulturists and the painstaking planting process that made the magic happen. Tickets for Dallas Blooms are available online or at the gate.



Tickets are already being sold for the 2019 Cool Thursdays Concert Series at the Arboretum. Think spring! Go ahead and secure your tickets to Dallas' only outdoor concert series overlooking White Rock Lake on the gorgeous Martin Rutchik Concert Stage and Lawn. With a fantastic lineup of tribute bands homage to artists from George Strait to Michael Jackson and original bands from the Beach Boys to Journey, you are sure to find a concert that suits your musical sensibilities. The spring series runs from March 28 - June 27, and the fall series runs from September 5 - October 24. Visit www.dallasarboretum.org for the full lineup and to purchase tickets.

Finally, a big thank you to our friends at the Dallas Arboretum for their generous gift of 100 complimentary admission tickets to the garden in December. Many neighbors took advantage of the opportunity to spend a crisp day in nature during the festive holiday season, and we couldn't be more appreciative!

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YARD OF THE MONTH

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November

Brandon and Nicole Ross
8255 Santa Clara

Novembers Yard of the Month is a beautiful contemporary on Santa Clara Drive. As you walk up to the home you are greeted by a long planting bed of gulf muhly grass that leads you along a walkway of poured concrete pads toward the front door.

As you get closer to the front entrance there are raised steel beds of rosemary and containers planted with agaves that give separation from the driveway while providing architectural interest to the landscape. The beds have been planted in sections composed of like plants that enhance the contemporary architecture beautifully. In these beds you will see vitex, sable palms, desert willow and roses.

December

Frank and Linda Roby
1507 San Raphael

The modern home that is Decembers yard of the month has been recently remodeled. This remodel honored the original architecture while giving this home a fresh new contemporary look. The landscape reflects this modern contemporary reboot. Clean low planting beds run along the front of this home and are comprised of Chinese fringe flower, gulf muhly, Mexican feather grass, variegated yucca, weeping blue atlas cedar and Texas sage.

Welcome in the New Year and Safety Tips for Valentines!

By East Dallas Veterinary Clinic

2019 Is Here!

And it's a great time to start a resolution to keep your pets healthy! Ringing in the New Year should be a time of celebration - not emergency clinic trips!

Follow these simple steps to keep the start of your New Year stress free!

Valentine's Day is all about the chocolate for us but not for your pets. Keep all chocolate and candy up and away from curious noses. Typically, chocolate is most toxic when it is darker and in solid form. If your pet happens to ingest chocolate, call Poison Control immediately. In addition to chocolate, keep all sugar-free items away from pets as well. Xylitol, an artificial sweetener found in many types of sugar-free candies and baked goods, is toxic to dogs and can cause liver failure. Like any holiday, keep all decorations out of the way of pets so ingestion is not a possibility.

And always be sure they have an appropriate collar on with up-to-date information tags AND have been microchipped - it's the law!



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8331 San Cristobal
Matthew & Margaux Sheard

8447 San Leandro
John & Melanie Dsilva

8522 Groveland
Laura Palmer

8379 Forest Hills
Dan & Ann Noble

8465 San Fernando
Rory & Sydney Osborne

8107 Santa Clara
Paras & Rakhi Patel

If you have just arrived or if you have a new neighbor, let us know! For oversights, please contact fhspen@aol.com with names /addresses so we can give our new neighbors a big welcome.

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.

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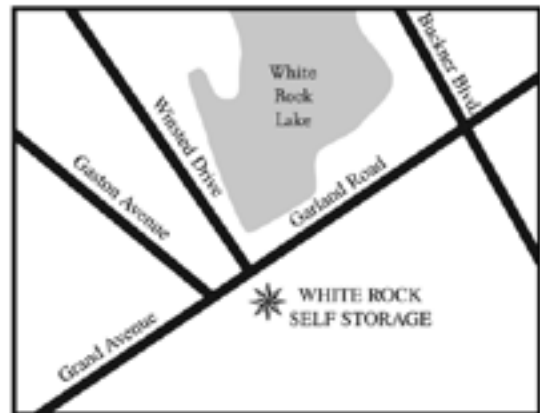
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See page 4 for info.

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