

Forest Hills News

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2020



Forest Hills Calendar of Events

Bulk Trash

January

Trash can go out Thursday the 9th – Sunday the 12th pickup begins the week of Monday January 13th

February

Trash can go out Thursday the 6th – Sunday the 9th pickup begins the week of February 10th

www.dallascityhall.com/departments/sanitation/Pages/default.aspx

White Rock Shore Spruce-Up
2nd Saturday each month

Newsletter articles and ads due
Sunday February 1st for the
March/April 2020 Issue





Valentine's Day! Show your Love for Forest Hills, Have a Heart!

We are so lucky to live in such a unique wonderful neighborhood! This does not "just happen" as it takes volunteers and donations to keep our neighborhood moving forward. Show your appreciation for Forest Hills and you will find it is rewarding to be vested in your community!

Thank you to all the incredible volunteers who step forward to help with different projects and events each year. Your efforts are greatly appreciated!

Another way to keep Forest Hills a top-notch place to live and play is to **pay your annual FHNA Dues for 2020!** Each dollar is put to good use in keeping our neighborhood a beautiful and fun place to live. Note that this is separate from the Security Program. We support this newsletter, pay for neighborhood events and semi-annual meetings, community beautification and make donations to Sanger Preparatory School and Animal Alert!

2020 FHNA Annual dues are due January 1st

Residents under 65 - \$50 per household

Residents 65+ - \$30 per household

Pay by PayPal, www.foresthillsdallas.org, or check to FHNA

Forest Hills Neighborhood Association

PO Box 180897 Dallas, TX 75218

Please Contribute - Volunteer - Be part of the FHNA spirit!

Additional donations of any amount are always appreciated.

FHNA OFFICERS - COMMITTEE CHAIRS - LIAISONS

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jeffrey_m_peterson@sbcglobal.net

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OPEN

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OPEN

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Landscape Architect, Michael Parkey, leads the tour discussing scope of work



FRIENDS OF THE Warren Ferris Cemetery

By Kristina Frey

Texas State Representative, retired, Harryette Ehrhardt, EdD, leads the conversation on the education aspects of our program



October 27 Fundraiser - A HUGE SUCCESS!

A perfect autumn afternoon, sunshine for one day between days of rain, a cooling breeze, the aroma of woodsmoke mixed with the smell of toasted marshmallows for s'mores - this was the auspicious backdrop for the kick-off fundraiser at the Warren Ferris Cemetery in Forest Hills on October 27, 2019. With nearly 100 folks attending, descendants of Warren Ferris, Wesley Chenault and Benjamin Dye greeted each other and mingled with residents of Forest Hills, Little Forest Hills, Lakewood, and the White Rock area. Together, this gathering was the first major meeting of the Friends of the Warren Ferris Cemetery, a non-profit formed to honor prominent early Dallas settlers and to celebrate the creation of a wildlife way station on the site.

After a tour of the cemetery led by landscape architect and advisor Michael Parkey, celebrants moved to the adjacent home of James and Barbara Jordan for refreshments and detailed information about the project. Author of the Ferris biography *Land is the Cry!* Suzanne Starling was available to sell autographed copies of her book, the proceeds of which go to the Friends of the Warren Ferris Cemetery. Former state representative Harryette Ehrhardt introduced Dallas attorney, Mike McKool, sponsor of the day's event, who recognized the descendants of the Ferris, Dye and Chenault families. Event logistics were orchestrated by a team of volunteers, (a big thank you to members of the board of the Native Plant Society, East Dallas Chapter, neighbors & descendants), manning registration and donation tables, creating seed balls, making s'mores and providing wild flower and Blue Bonnet seeds for the participants to spread throughout the cemetery site during the tour. Donations are still coming in. The fundraiser was a HUGE success.

From a site completely overgrown with invasive species in the early spring, the beginnings of the transformation could not be more dramatic. Julie Fineman's vision of returning the site to native Backland prairie with grasses and wildflowers to attract animals, birds and monarch butterflies, has led a dozen hardy neighborhood volunteers to labor each Saturday from March until the event.

An initial grant of \$1,500 from Grady McGahan's Urban Forest Council reinforced the enthusiasm for the approach and spurred on the volunteers. In July, Julie teamed up with Harryette Ehrhardt who provided many Dallas advisors, partners, and sponsors for the project. Harryette moves at lightning speed, it's amazing what we accomplished under her guidance in a little over three months!

After reading *Land is the Cry!* Julie realized the historic significance of this pioneer cemetery and of Ferris himself. Through a dedicated outreach, descendants of pioneer families that were buried in the cemetery became enthusiastically involved. Sympathetic to its own mission, the Communities Foundation of Texas agreed to be the fiscal sponsor of the project and a website was created to publish a snapshot of our goals and receive donations to the project: <https://portal.cftexas.org/friendsofwarrenferriscemetery>. Work on the Warren Ferris Cemetery program, including clearing, planting, educational and research programs, will be an ongoing effort. Volunteers and contributions will be needed. See details on our website: <https://friendsofwarrenferriscemetery.org>. Also check our "Birdhouse" mailbox at the entrance on San Leandro Drive at St. Francis for more information. **A Big Thank You to all who've volunteered and donated to date and who attended the event. We look forward to building a tight knit community with our neighbors and strong bonds with descendants through the Friends of the Warren Ferris Cemetery.**



Tom McCurry casts wildflower & Blackland Prairie seed mix.



Alicia McClean and Sara Jane Fox work the seed-ball making table for the kids.



Event sponsor, Atty. Mike McKool, mingles with neighbors and descendants.





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Welcome in the New Year and Pet Safety Tips for Valentine's!

By East Dallas Veterinary Clinic

2020 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.

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



FUNraiser Follow Up

The 2019 Forest Hills FUNraiser was so overwhelmingly successful, we have booked the Beer Garden at Lakewood Brewing Company again for the coming year!

With 180 tickets sold and \$18,000 raised, the Security Program was able to pay for increased hours over the 2019 Holidays and to add patrol hours for this year. Additional proceeds went to FH Neighborhood Beautification, Sanger Preparatory School, Ferguson Road Initiative and White Rock Center of Hope. But the REAL SUCCESS of the event was that this fun evening brought our community together! The oldest neighbors to the youngest and all ages in between were well represented!



"I have been trying to meet you for a year, so glad we finally met."

"This is so fun, loved meeting all my neighbors!"

"This is so great! I want to be a sponsor next year. Give me a call!"

These were just a few of the remarks from the evening. People were enjoying each other and making new friendships all evening. That was the GOAL of the event. Next year we plan to expand on all the positives. The committee hopes to improve the check-out and many other aspects that we learned along the way with this first time event. Thanks again to all those who came and those that assisted in the organization and production of this event. It could not have been successful without you!

LOOKING FORWARD TO MORE FUN NEXT OCTOBER 2020!

Please contact Carol Lander at caroltlander@gmail.com if you are interested in being a sponsor for 2020. Contact Susan Bailey at skbmoi@swbell.net if you have a business or service you would like to promote, are an artist or otherwise would want a tax deductible donation opportunity. This is your chance to share it with the community.



are you **IN?**

Forest Hills Security

Annual "SIGN IN" Day is 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

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joinUS!



IT'S HERE!

One day to remember. 1-23! No excuses. It's your day to contribute to the FHSP and the safety of your neighborhood. Our goal is 80% of the neighborhood to be **IN!**

It is easy. Pay by mail or go online to www.foresthillssecurity.org. Choose the highest level you can, and click you are "IN". Special thanks to all who have continued to choose higher levels! Your annual participation allows the program to budget for the entire year and schedule the number of patrols needed in advance.



IT'S WORKING!

Our membership went from 50% last January to 64% by year end! Our crime rates have decreased by 50% and patrol hours continue to increase. Our officers are doing a great job and Forest Hills is working on being one of the safest communities in Dallas.

OUR 2020 CHALLENGE!

We need 110 NEW participants to join our FHSP to reach our goal of 80%. Stay **IN**, Join **IN**, Invest **IN** Security!

KEEP FOREST HILLS SAFE!



WE CAN DO THIS!

FHSP is a 501 (C)(3) Non-Profit Organization. Your contributions are tax deductible in accordance with IRS regulations.



Neighborhood Tree Lighting Event

By Carrie Cole and Sara Winwood



Kicking off the holiday season, residents joined in for a festive time at the annual Forest Hills Neighborhood Tree Lighting event on Sunday, December 3rd. Jolly Santa was on hand to listen to the hopes and wishes of all the children for this holiday season. Hot cocoa kept everyone warm, as they watched with delight the Christmas train circle the block. When the children weren't on the train or negotiating with Santa, they busied themselves with ornament making and cookie decorating. Right at dusk, our FHNA president, Jeff Peterson, did the official countdown and lit the sparkling tree. It was a glorious sight and a fine way to usher in the holiday season!

Special thanks to the **Westerbergs** for their electricity as we set up the lights, **Chris McCauley** for his electricity know-how, **Lee Ann Hunt** for a generous donation of candy for all the kids to enjoy, **Andie Comini** for the loan of her tables, **Anna Allegro** for helping prepare cookies, **Sergeant Mike Mata** for his traffic control and overall neighborhood safety, and the following 8th graders who assisted in the setup: **Lydia Fontane, George Winwood, Justin Kemp, and Lanham Bevers**. Also, many thanks to the many neighbors who came out to celebrate and make this event such a hit!

Editors' Note: We think a huge THANK YOU is due to **Sara Winwood** and **Carrie Cole** for volunteering to be our Event Chairs. This is the first event that they have organized and what a great success it was!






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Forest Hills Fall Clean Up

By Tim Simmonds

On November 10th, a small dedicated group of neighbors met to clean up the median at the corner of Santa Clara Dr. and Whittier. It was transformed from shabby to sharp

looking while we enjoyed the beautiful weather and each other's company. Thank you to **Doug Gilpin, Greg Stinson, Andie Comini, Tim Simmonds and Louie Buckman.** *Next time you see them, be sure to tell them thanks!*





Spotlight on the Arboretum

By Terry Lendecker

*Veganuary Series Every Saturday in January.
11am- noon at A Tasteful Place.*

Free with paid garden admission. Join us as we welcome some of Dallas' top vegan Chefs and restaurants. Enjoy samples of their creations.

Jan 4 – Pineapple Vega

Jan 11 – Reverie Bakeshop

Jan 18 – Bam's Vegan

Jan 25 – Spiral Diner

*Chinese New Year Garden to Table Dinner
by Imoto*

January 23, 6:30-8:30-pm - \$125 member/\$145 non-member

Acclaimed Chef Kent Rathbun brings a delectable menu to this special dinner. Price includes a three-course menu, including a variety of dumplings, pot stickers and Mongolian BBQ ribs, with signature beer pairings. There will be a special presentation and demo by Chef Rathbun.

*Groundhog Day Celebration February 2nd –
6:30am, A Tasteful Place*

Come and find out if winter is sticking around, or if spring arrives in time for Dallas Blooms.

Arboretum Annie, our groundhog, is onsite to predict the weather based on whether she sees her shadow or not at our sunrise ceremony at 7:22am. Enjoy a full day of fun, starting with complimentary coffee or hot chocolate, breakfast vendor sales in the garden, and of course, a screening of the popular movie *Groundhog Day* starring Bill Murray.

Galentine's Day Garden to Table Dinner

February 13 – 6:30-8:30 pm - Presented by Gil's Elegant Catering at A Tasteful Place

While Valentine's Day is a day to celebrate romantic love, Galentine's Day on February 13 is dedicated to celebrating friendship. Bring your bestie for a fun evening with a three-course menu inspired by the most beloved chick-flicks! Champagne pairings are included.

Ring in the
new year with
a new kitchen.



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FRI/FHNA

WHITE ROCK HILLS PARK AND OTHER NEWS

BY DANIEL ORTMAN



Hi neighbors! In this issue I want to update you on progress taking place in the neighborhood.

FRI is happy to report that the Casa Blanca Apartments at 2165 Highland Road are finally coming down. This property, along with the former Crestwood Apartments at 2131 Highland Road, will add an additional 4 acres to the current 3.5 acres of the future White Rock Hills Community Recreation Center project. As outlined in the last issue, the White Rock Hills Park has broken ground and the hardscape for the playgrounds has been poured. The White Rock Hills Park, which we expect to debut in 2020, is Phase I of the future Community Recreation Center.



In other news, I'm excited to report that (very recently) the Urban Land Institute, Land for Public Trust, Circuit Loop Conservancy, Dallas Parks Department and others engaged in a 2-day think tank to brainstorm ways to positively create economic developments. This includes the soon-to-be-completed White Rock Hills Park, the beginning construction of the Trinity Forest Spine (Bike) Trail, the upcoming reconstruction of Highland Road and the future White Rock Hills Community Recreation Center. All this serves as an anchor and catalyst for economic development along the lower Ferguson Road corridor – very cool. More on this later.

FRI is indebted to the City of Dallas Park and Recreation Department for writing the associated grant and for continuing their journey with FRI!

As always, for more insight, look at the FRI website (<https://www.fergusonroad.org/>). Please consider joining or otherwise supporting the organization that supports our neighborhood, and the rest of far East Dallas, <https://www.fergusonroad.org/membership/donate/>. Please let me know if you have particular questions about FRI and I'll try to speak to those directly, or in the next issue of the *Forest Hills Newsletter*. daniel.ortman@fergusonroad.org

YARD OF THE MONTH

BY JULIE DUNN

November - Chad Dorsey & Kurt Bielawski 8214 San Fernando Way

At least 36 new trees grace this front yard alongside 10 large Holly bushes and numerous perennial grasses. "From the street, we wanted the house to be completely hidden," Chad explains. Kurt expects the newly planted trees bordering the driveway to eventually form a canopy over the gravel approach to their sleek black modern "Surf Shack" which evokes the casual carefree living found in small coastal communities.

Two existing weather-beaten trees were happily incorporated into the landscape providing architectural interest and a place to perch and enjoy the views. Toward the house you see sandy gravel to a bank of Cast Iron Plants. Look across the grassy knolls toward the street and see grasses and woods.

Smaller Yaupon Hollies are planted closer to the house with Arizona Cypress and large conical shaped Holly bushes closer to the street. Deciduous Oaks and Cedars tucked into the overgrowth with perennial grasses and Oak Leaf Hydrangeas and shrubs. It's an appealing slice of forest when viewed from the street; a lovely wooded enclave when viewed from the house.



December - Melody White 8409 Santa Clara Drive

Five majestic Live Oaks frame this beautiful Italian Mediterranean home and the young landscape Melody has been working on for about 2 & 1/2 years. She's had her struggle with our clay soils and hot summers, but she's happy with most of the results so far. It's a beautiful work in progress.

The Italian Cypress, Magnolias, Japanese Maples and two of the Dogwoods have taken hold in the undulating foundation beds. The Holly bushes have flourished and most of the Red Encore Azaleas have done well, just recently having lost their second bloom. Now a riot of purple and yellow Pansies provides a color pop and a spectacular Christmas garland drapes the front door.

"I may not be able to tell you the names of all the plants, but I know what I like." One thing this long time Memphis resident really likes is incorporating favorite statues and garden urns from her home back in Tennessee into this inviting landscape. Another is the way those stately oaks shelter her property and frame her view of the world beyond.





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8502 Groveland
Howie & Kate Reed

8131 San Leandro
Ian Walker & Alexandra Stuart

8184 Santa Clara
Benjamin & Lindsay Hunter

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. Let us know of any oversights.

Also, if you have just arrived or if you have a new neighbor, please contact us with names/addresses, so we can extend a big welcome.
welcometoforesthills@mail.com



Find out what makes these kids smile!



OPEN HOUSE DATES

Nov 7 and Jan 16 from 5:30-7:00pm

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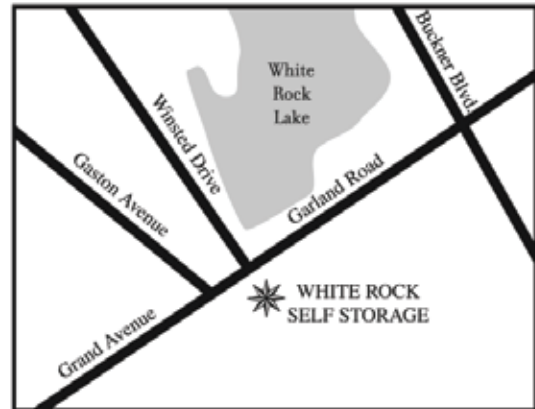
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