



# FOREST HILLS NEWS

July - August 2012

[www.foresthillsdallas.org](http://www.foresthillsdallas.org)



## Forest Hills Honors the Red, White, and Blue

### Forest Hills Calendar of Events

**July 4 – PARADE & PICNIC.** 9:30 am Line-up at Brezewood & Forest Hills. 10:00 am Parade Begins. Route: Forest Hills to Whittier to Alley behind Garland Road to Keller's Backyard Picnic!  
See inside for more details.

**Every Month –** Second Saturday Love of the Lake, White Rock Shoreline Spruce-up. For details: <http://www.whiterocklake.org> or 214-660-1100. Sign up for "Forest Hills": Area from fishing dock on Garland Road across from White Rock Road to corner of Winsted.

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You are invited to visit our new \$8.5M amenity and *Dream Come True* . . .

# White Rock Hills Branch Library

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## SUMMER LIBRARY HOURS:

TUESDAY, NOON-8 P.M.

WEDNESDAY, 10 A.M.-6 P.M.

THURSDAY, NOON- 8 P.M.

FRIDAY, 10 A.M.-6 P.M.

SATURDAY, 10 A.M.-6 P.M.

SUNDAY, CLOSED

MONDAY, CLOSED

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# 9150

FERGUSON ROAD  
DALLAS, TEXAS 75228

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Once upon a time. . . In 1995, the residents of Far East Dallas envisioned a brand new library for their community.

They formed **FRI** (Ferguson Road Initiative) and got to work on finding a way to make it happen. In the 2003 City of Dallas Bond Election, FRI mobilized community support to advocate and secure \$400,000 to buy the land for the library. In the 2006 Bond Election they again mobilized community support to advocate and secure \$8.5M to build the library. Our story is one that demonstrates that if you dream **BIG**, work **TOGETHER**, and **NEVER GIVE UP**, your dreams really will come true! If you are not already a member of the FRI Community Connection, White Rock Hills Library Friends, or the Dallas Public Library, we encourage you to join today!  
[www.fergusonroad.org](http://www.fergusonroad.org) [www.wrhlfb.org](http://www.wrhlfb.org)



**A collaborative  
community project of:**



**For more information:**

**Call:** (214) 670-8443





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# WHITE ROCK LIBRARY OPENING JUNE 16, 2012

The Grand opening of the White Rock Library was a huge success. See below quotes from the day and a few photos.

*Vikki J. Martin, President, Ferguson Road Initiative*

- First envisioned in 1995, our library is a huge milestone in the life of the residents of Far East Dallas. It is a shining example of what happens when a community bands together, works collaboratively and never gives up!
- Under the engine of FRI, our community not only dared to dream BIG, but we also created a strategic plan and then summoned the courage to invest the sweat equity needed to see this project through to the end.
- Our library is but one part of our mission. It is a place where children and families can learn, an empowered community can gather, and know that when you work hard, dreams come true!
- Our next BIG project? The White Rock Hills Community Recreation Center!

Denise and I have volunteered as “Event Coordinators” for the Ferguson Road Initiative, on several projects, including the VIP Reception and the Grand Opening of the White Rock Hills Library.

FRI was instrumental in bringing the library to Far East Dallas.

We look forward to having the beautiful facility close to our neighborhood. FRI is also working toward a new Recreation Center along Ferguson Road, in the next few years.

Max and Denise Davis, Co-Presidents Little Forest Hills



*Ron Brown, Alice Zaccarello &  
Max Davis: Co-President Little Forest Hills*



*Vikki J. Martin: Executive Director  
Ferguson Road Initiative, Sisters Jamila Jenkins &  
Jihadi Jenkins from Episcopal Community*

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## FAREWELL TO ROGER CAMPIAN

We are saddened to say goodbye to a good friend and our mail carrier for over ten years as he leaves us for new route. Roger has not only provided excellent service he has taken the time to get to know us all and was an extra pair of eyes watching over us. I always knew that if my mail was not in my box by 11 a.m. Roger was not working that day. He would take care of your hold request and promptly deliver the accumulated mail when you returned. We wish him well on his new route, but we will miss him and our new carrier will have big shoes to fill.

Debbie Knight



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# PLEDGE TO FOREST HILLS SECURITY PROGRAM CRIME PREVENTION AT ITS BEST

Resident-funded, Forest Hills Security Program (FHSP) hires off-duty Dallas Police officers to patrol our neighborhood. Not one thing can prevent crime entirely from happening to you, however the more lines of defense you have, the less chance there will be of you or your fellow neighbors becoming a crime statistic. Please invest in your and Forest Hills' safety with a pledge to this important layer of defense.



PLEDGE TO SECURITY - \$60 Per Quarter

Q1 Jan-Mar - \$60      Q2 Apr-Jun - \$60      Q3 Jul-Sep - \$60 - Currently Due!      Q4 Oct-Dec - \$60

You may pay quarters in advance (2 = \$120, 3 = \$180 or 4 = \$240)

With your credit card through PayPal on the security page [foresthillsdallas.org](http://foresthillsdallas.org) check or automatic bank payment to:  
Forest Hills Security Program 8432 San Fernando Way Dallas, TX 75218

Concerns, Comments, Compliments, Payment Inquiry [fhspen@aol.com](mailto:fhspen@aol.com) 214 535-2077

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## FHSP HOME WATCH FORM

If you are a current subscriber to the Forest Hills Security Program, you receive the added benefit of a police officer checking on your home when you are away for an extended time.

Dallas Off-Duty Police officers through the Security Program provide this courtesy service.

The Home Watch form informs our police patrol that your home will be unattended and provides an extra eye, a lending hand and professional expertise, plus that peace of mind to the resident.

A Word Document of the Home Watch form can be found at the Forest Hills website in "Security" section of [foresthillsdallas.org](http://foresthillsdallas.org) or may be requested at [fhspen@aol.com](mailto:fhspen@aol.com) or 214 535-2077.

Example of the Watch Form For Current Subscribers

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE/EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

DEPARTURE \_\_\_\_\_

RETURN \_\_\_\_\_

SECURITY SYSTEM \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL CHECK DETAILS \_\_\_\_\_

PETS \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACTS WHILE GONE \_\_\_\_\_

WHO HAS KEY \_\_\_\_\_

VEHICLES IN DRIVEWAY & GARAGE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

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# SUMMER VACATION SECURITY TIPS

Your home should look like it always does when you are at home.

Use timers to operate lights, radios, TV

Review your answering machine message to make sure it does not imply you are away.  
Do not broadcast vacation plans on Facebook.

Arrange for continuation of lawn care.

Ask a friend or neighbor to pick up deliveries, door flyers or papers that may appear daily. Have deliveries, papers, mail stopped. An additional benefit if you contribute to the security program is being able to have patrol officers check your property.

Have a friend move your car occasionally if it is parked in your driveway. Or have a neighbor park one of their cars in your driveway at different times.

Keep an eye on your neighbor's property and have them watch yours for any out of the ordinary movement or placement of things. Be aware and if you see anything suspicious, please call 911 to report it.

Secure your home, be extra aware, watch out for yourself and your neighbors and pledge to your neighborhood's Security Program.



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## COP BY DAY – CANTON FLEA MARKET VENDOR ONCE A MONTH

On a typical day, Jana Brewster is a Patrol Officer out of our NE Dallas Police Station. You might have seen her in Forest Hills as one of our off-duty officers for the Security Program or performing with the Dallas Police choir at our December Keller Tree lighting ceremony. Once a month Brewster heads East to Canton's First Monday Trade Days and sets up a booth. She started her business as a Mickey Mouse collector. Canton was where she searched for her treasures. After some of her friends opened flea market booths, she followed with her own in 1991. Her specialties are toys, but you'll find other odds and ends for sale. If you are headed that way, stop by, see her and mention Forest Hills. You'll find Jana on the corner of row 50 and Antique Alley or on Ebay at "heymissy".





# PAWS PAGE



## Tips To Prevent Heat Stroke In Your Pet

### Avoid this preventable emergency

*By Janet Tobiassen Crosby, DVM, About.com Guide*

Hot weather creates additional hazards for your pet. Unlike humans, animals can't change their wardrobe or turn on the air conditioning like humans do to keep comfortable. Follow these common sense tips to prevent a heat-related pet emergency.

Besides the obvious... provide shelter and shade, fresh water, and good grooming, here are some tips to help keep your pet cool in the summer heat

- Be aware of ways that your pet could accidentally be caught without shade - is your pet on a tether and could potentially get caught out in the full sun? Will the shade be available all day? While the shelter provides shade, is it hotter inside the shelter? If possible, utilize shade from trees in addition to the dog house; assuring that there is sufficient shade all day long.
- If your pet is left indoors, is air conditioning available? Will the house stay cool through the heat of the day? Basement access will provide a naturally cool area to keep your pet comfortable.
- For indoor or outdoor animals, a cool water "bath" before leaving for work will provide additional cooling for your pet.
- Is fresh, cool water available at all times? Can your pet spill the water source? Consider installing an automatic pet waterer.
- Do not plan long walks or go jogging in the heat of the day. This can be life-threatening for some dogs. Plan exercise and outdoor activities in the relative coolness of morning and evening time. Be sure to bring along fresh water or a collapsible drinking bowl to allow your pet to get a cool drink when needed.
- NEVER leave your pet in the car, even if it is only for a "quick errand"! This is very dangerous, even on days that are only mildly warm. If you see a pet locked in a car, please call local animal authorities immediately, you may save a life!

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## ANIMAL ALERT!

If you have lost or found a pet in Forest Hills please contact our Animal Alert! to report it.

Forest Hills and Little Forest Hills work together to try and help get lost pets back home.

Email [info@lfhanimalalert.org](mailto:info@lfhanimalalert.org) as much information as possible: type, size, coloring, age, sex, when/where lost or found, etc. along with a picture or two if possible. The more information the better.

The BEST WAY to get lost or found pets home is through communication. Most of our pets have been returned home because someone recognized the picture of a pet in our Animal Alert! emails. Email [info@lfhanimalalert.org](mailto:info@lfhanimalalert.org) to be added to the list of those receiving our alerts.

Emails are sent out only about our pets. We do not sell emails or use these emails for any other reason. If for any reason you wish to be removed from the list, simply let us know.

THE MORE EMAILS ON THE LIST - THE MORE PETS WE CAN GET HOME!

Have you registered your pets with Animal Alert! yet? Download a form from our web and either drop it off or mail it to: Andie Comini- 1737 Whittier Ave Dallas, Texas 75218

[www.foresthillsdallas.org](http://www.foresthillsdallas.org) (214) 930-5910

If you would like to volunteer or donate- please contact Andie Comini (214) 328-0508

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# SUPPORT SANGER THIS SUMMER!!!

Ways you can help support Alex Sanger this summer!

1. Monster Yogurt will be giving 10% of all sales to Alex Sanger the third Thursday of every month. The dates are June 21st, July 19th and August 16th.
2. Apply for a Target Red Card (it's a debit card) and designate Alex Sanger as your choice of school. You will receive 5% off of every Target purchase online or in the store when you use the card and Target will give 1% of the total purchases back to Alex Sanger every September.
3. Collect Box Tops this summer and drop them off at the school when it reopens in August or Alandra or Brandi can come pick them up at your house.
4. If you work at a company or own a business that supports local schools please contact, Alandra at [alandra\\_adams@sbcglobal.net](mailto:alandra_adams@sbcglobal.net) or Brandi at [brandi.w.bauer@gmail.com](mailto:brandi.w.bauer@gmail.com). We are the fundraising co-chairs for Alex Sanger this upcoming school year and would love to hear from you!
5. Also, you are welcome to join the PTA at Alex Sanger if your child will not attend kindergarten for a couple more years. We do have active parents whose children will attend Alex Sanger in the next couple of years.

Want to learn more about Sanger happenings, sign up for their email blasts at [Www.alexsangerelementary.org](http://Www.alexsangerelementary.org).

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## A SOLDIER'S LIFE IN AFGHANISTAN

As we prepare to celebrate our great nations independence day with parades, cookouts and fireworks let's not forget those that make it possible.

I don't think many of us can image the conditions our soldiers live in or the state of mind that must come with the daily threats to their lives and well being. They are far removed from their loved ones and civilization as we know it. They are never off duty and always on high alert never knowing when one wrong step can change their life forever or end it. The COP(Combat OutPost) Jordan lives in is below ground with the roofs being at ground level and the walk ways covered with camouflage netting. It is about two city blocks long and they run on generators and satellite for internet connections. The barracks he shares with seven other soldiers are plywood construction. They each have a bunk bed. They sleep on the bottom and the top is their storage. You can see in the photo that Jordan has a piece of plywood on the side of his bed that he put nails in to use as his closet. They have it better than some because their COP was already established and they have showers, laundry facilities and a workout room. As a medic Jordan is not only responsible for the well being of the thirty three soldier's in his unit, but he is also trained to treat the natives and their livestock. We feel very fortunate to be in regular contact with Jordan through e-mail and the occasional phone call. We are counting the days until his safe return and the return of all the soldier's currently serving in harm's way.

On this fourth of July, thank a soldier, say a prayer and count your blessings.

Debbie Knight (mother of Jordan Knight)



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# 2012 WHITE ROCK EAST GARDEN TOUR AND ARTISANS

On Sunday May 20, 2012 the neighborhoods of Forest Hills, Little Forest Hills and Casa Linda Estates featured a self guided tour of nine wonderful gardens, three from each neighborhood. Each of the nine gardens had artisans from these three neighborhoods showcasing their beautiful art for visitors to admire and purchase. In addition a plant sale was held at Casa Linda Park - great plants and great prices!

Proceeds from the tour will be divided among the three neighborhood associations. Forest Hills will use their share for neighborhood beautification.

We want to thank the garden owners from our neighborhood who gave so generously of their time and graciously opened their backyards for over 900 delighted visitors to enjoy.

Garden owners for 2012 were:

Michaels/Davis garden - 8430 Santa Clara Dr.

Pope garden - 8358 San Fernando Way

Headden garden - 8531 San Benito Way.

## SPECIAL THANKS TO THE VOLUNTEERS

This tour would not have been possible without the help of our volunteers. Barb Michaels, Andie Comini and Lottie Minick represented our neighborhood at all of the planning sessions. Mary Deighton helped procure sponsors and advertisers and Judy Whalen helped with volunteers. Thanks to Cynthia Daniel (our neighbor on Barbaree) for managing all the artists. And Gary Grass, our treasurer went above and beyond duty in keeping track of all the finances for this event.

And very special thanks goes all the volunteers who monitored the gardens this year: Kelly Miller, Mike Miller, Marsha Singer, Shelly Clem, Patty Goya, Ty Farris, Katrina Moran, Dianne Solomon, Larry Solomon, Leon Russell, Sharon Russell, Josephine Brown, Dorinda Duncan, Robert Smith, Karen Stepick, Judy Whalen, Denise Seigal, Debbie Knight, Debbie Krumme, Eileen Grass, Margaret Webb, Angie Title, Louie Buchman, Mary Deighton, Pat Corrigan, Kathy Estell, Greg Estell, Sally Rabbitt, Ronnie Davis, Kelly Kemp, Mary Scallorn, Marvel Kewitt, Doug Mourer, Lori Hunt, Laurie Dang, Todd Daniel and Rachael Brown. You are the BEST!







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# GARDEN CLUB NEWS

Joy Ijams and Megan Bruce, Education Coordinators for the Dallas Arboretum, welcomed the Forest Hills Garden Club at the front gate before they began their walking tour of the gardens and the Chihuly exhibit. The ladies enjoyed lovely weather while walking the park admiring glass sculptures set against the wonderful landscape. After, everyone sat down for a leisurely lunch at the patio restaurant. Good food, a cool breeze and great conversation capped another fun Garden Club get together.

We welcome all. For information contact: Debbie Knight - [geodebknight@swbell.net](mailto:geodebknight@swbell.net), Barbara Clay - [clayconcil@sbcglobal.net](mailto:clayconcil@sbcglobal.net), or Lottie Minick - [lottie@minickassociates.com](mailto:lottie@minickassociates.com)

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## Special thanks to all the White Rock Garden Tour Advertisers

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www.brumleygardens.com (214) 343-4900

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info@cntrealestate.com (214) 280-8381

David Bush Realtors  
www.davidbushrealestate.com (214) 327-2200

East Lake Pet Orphanage  
www.elpo.org (214) 349-ELPO

Fantastic Moves  
www.fantasticmoves.com (214) 349-MOVE

Foster Exteriors Window Company  
www.fosterexteriors.com (214) 319-8400

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www.gomow.com (972) 480-9820

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www.highlandparkcafeteria.com (214) 324-5000

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harrymorgan@daveperrymiller.com (972) 380-7707

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www.justletlynndoit.com (214) 616-6542

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www.twosisterscatering.com (214) 823-3075

Vicki White Homes - Keller Williams  
www.vickiwhitehomes.com (214) 534-1305

Walton's Garden Center  
www.waltonsgarden.com (214) 321-2387

White Rock Lake Real Estate  
www.WhiteRockLakeProperties.com (214) 676-4326

White Rock Orthodontics  
www.whiterockorthodontics.com (214) 613-2122

White Rock Tree Wizards  
www.treewizards.com (972) 803-6313

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## 4TH OF JULY PARADE AND PICNIC CELEBRATE WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS

**Special thanks to the Keller family for hosting and sponsoring this event!!**

**TO BE IN THE PARADE** – Wednesday, July 4, 9:30 am -10:00 am Line Up on Breezewood between Santa Clara and Forest Hills Blvd (Drive/walk in the parade! Decorate a car, a float, a bike, a trike, a pet or kiddo. Win an award!)

**TO WATCH IT** – 10:00 am Parade BEGINS Parade Route: From Breezewood down Forest Hills Blvd, left on Whittier, right to Keller Party Grounds. (Wave a flag and cheer them on!)

**TO CELEBRATE AND PICNIC WITH NEIGHBORS** – Keller Party Grounds 10:45am - follow the alley between San Fernando and Garland from Whittier toward Lakeland (follow the signs) courtesy of the Keller Family Food and Fun (Hot Dogs, Watermelon, Bake Sale, Music, Jump Houses and Parade Awards)

**TO CONTRIBUTE** – Have some USA Minted Money in your pocket. Donations (FHNA is a 501C3 and your donations are tax deductible) Available for purchase ..... FHNA T- Shirts

\*\*\*Children's Network Bake Sale\*\*\*

**TO VOLUNTEER FOR THIS EVENT!! AN ARMY OF HELP STILL NEEDED (DUTIES OR DONATIONS)**  
Please contact Lori Hunt- fhserviceleague@aol.com

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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  
fhnascretary@aol.com

## Beautification Chair

Barbara Michaels  
fhbeautification@aol.com

## Service League Chair

Lori Hunt  
FHAServiceleague@aol.com

## Crime Watch Chair

Judy Whalen  
fhnacrimewatch@aol.com

## Communications Chair

Katie Meadows  
fhaeditor@aol.com

## Planning & Zoning Chair

Seper Rasti  
fhnazoning@aol.com

## Membership / Newcomers Chair

Judy Whalen  
fhnanewcomers@aol.com

## Children's Network Chair

Amanda Johnson  
fhchildrensnet@aol.com

## Animal Alert!

Andie Comini  
andiecomini@aol.com

## Media Relations

Lottie Minick  
lottie@minickassociates.com

## FLOTL Liaison

Joan Shopoff  
jsshopoff@gmail.com

## Sanger Elementary Liaison

Jason Sellers  
fhnasanger@aol.com

## FRI Liaison

Vacant

## Webmaster

Sharon Hill  
sharonhill@tx.rr.com

## Arboretum Liaison

Rick Sorrells  
fhnavp@aol.com



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NAHB NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HOME BUILDERS  
NARI NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS

## WELCOME NEWCOMERS!

8005 San Cristobal - Hope Pinson

8522 Groveland - Mike and Caitlyn Fantl

8022 San Leandro - Tom Gillette and June Chow

8130 San Leandro - Rick Lusk

8555 San Benito - Mark and Maureen Maurer

1715 Corday: Martin and Tricia DeLeon

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, contact fhnanewcomers@aol.com with names and addresses so we can give our new neighbors a Woodsy Welcome and a Guide to Forest Hills!



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# TOP 10 TIPS TO HIRING A CONTRACTOR

Contractor Connection<sup>SM</sup>

[www.contractorconnection.com](http://www.contractorconnection.com)

**1. Proper licensing** – Verify the contractor's license is up to date for the type of work required for your project. If you hire an unlicensed contractor and something goes wrong, there is very little recourse you will have against them.

*Many states require a contractor's license which is different than a simple business license. The verification needs to consist of more than a license number listed on letter head or a business card. The Contractor Connection credentialing process is completed by experienced personnel who perform a contractor's state license verification on annual basis for all network members active in our program. This removes the burden of your having to personally verify the authenticity of the contractor license at time of hire.*

**2. Adequate Insurance** – Confirm your contractor is adequately insured to include general liability and workers compensation at minimum. If the contractor is not properly insured and something goes wrong while they are working at your home, you could be held liable.

*Verifying insurance is difficult to do and should consist of more than a verbal confirmation from the contractor or their agent. Contractor Connection streamlines this process through its stringent credentialing requirements that require all network members to have a minimum of \$1,000,000 general liability and excess insurance, as well as workers compensation, and other important insurance coverage that all large reputable contractors should have in place.*

**3. Financial Stability** – Your home improvement project is an investment and you want to make sure you hire someone who is financially stable and capable of paying their employees, suppliers, and subcontractors, as well as be able to complete your project timely. Unfortunately, the current economic conditions are very challenging for some contractors to remain in business.

*A consumer asking to run a credit check on the contractor may not be a feasible option. Contractor Connection eliminates this step for you as we closely monitor all network contractors' financial stability by completing an initial financial review and quarterly credit reports to monitor their financial stability.*

**4. Professional Affiliations** – Contractors who belong to some type of professional organization such as Contractor Connection, Better Business Bureau, Chamber of Commerce, or other Builder Associations usually have more accountability as these organizations usually screen their members.

*The Contractor Connection network is "Quality Focused – Performance Driven". We reward our high performers with increased opportunities so they are positively motivated to perform at a high level on all home project referrals. We eliminate the need for the consumer to be concerned with the Contractors' performance history as we track their performance within our network and remove network members for poor performance history, or violations of our ethical behavior requirement.*

**5. Professional Company and Experienced Staff** – You want to make sure you hire a company who is professional, reliable, trustworthy, and experienced in home renovation. It is important that the contractor has a legitimate business location and appropriate equipment to complete your home improvement project. You also want to make sure that the employees they are sending to your home have been properly screened and trained.

*While most contractors are willing to give you a list of references, it is unlikely you will be given a name of an unsatisfied customer. Contractor Connection maintains performance history on all projects. As part of the Contractor Connection screening process, we complete a site visit on all of our participating members to ensure they have professional facilities. Contractors must be experienced professionals and complete a criminal background check on any of their direct employees that will be on the job site.*

**6. Workmanship Warranty** – Most ethical contractors are willing to stand behind their work and provide you a workmanship warranty for at least a one year period for most projects. Be sure to discuss this with your contractor and get their commitment in writing to ensure they will stand behind their work. Of course, it is important the contractor is financially stable or else they may not be around to deliver on their promise.

*Contractor Connection ensures that all network contractors have signed our written contractual agreement indicating that they will provide a two year workmanship warranty on referral assignments that are part of this program. If a contractor does not honor this commitment, Contractor Connection will assist in the dispute resolution process and ensure the contractors honor their contractual requirements as outlined in our contract with them.*

**7. Secure an Itemized Quote** – Be sure you are provided an itemized bid that outlines full details of the work that will be completed for your project. The contractor pricing should be based on industry standards. If the pricing is unclear, ask the contractor what their pricing is based on and to further explain their bid.

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As part of the Contractor Connection quality assurance program, all network contractors are required to use a common estimating platform that is widely used by the insurance industry. A team of Contractor Connection professionals experienced in construction and property estimating provides a courtesy review of the home improvement bids submitted by the contractor before they present to the consumer to ensure their bid is based on industry standards and proper use of the estimating pricing database. This courtesy review is being completed to help ensure contractor pricing is consistent, fair, and reasonable. It is up to the consumer and contractor to reach final agreement on the home improvement project.

**8. Written Contract** – When you elect to hire the contractor, you should have a written contract that states the start date, estimated length of time to complete the project, warranty provision and terms, and total price for the project with a schedule of the payments or draws if required. Thoroughly review the contract and make sure you understand it before signing.

Contractor Connection requires all network contractors sign our contractor agreement that ensures they will be properly licensed, insured, and financially stable and abide by program rules that require professional and ethical behavior. In addition, we have performance measurements in place to drive consistent level of quality service. This ensures a professional, reputable contractor is assigned to your project.

**9. Establishing Clear Communication** – The key to a successful home improvement project is to ensure you establish clear communication with the contractor on the project scope, price, start and completion dates, and their management oversight of workers. Also, be sure to establish a point of contact should you have questions on your project or have any issues.

As the Contractor Connection program measures contractor timeliness and customer satisfaction, consumers using this program see a higher consistent level of service on their home improvement projects. If a problem arises that the contractor cannot resolve to your satisfaction, the Contractor Connection program provides assistance in the resolution process.

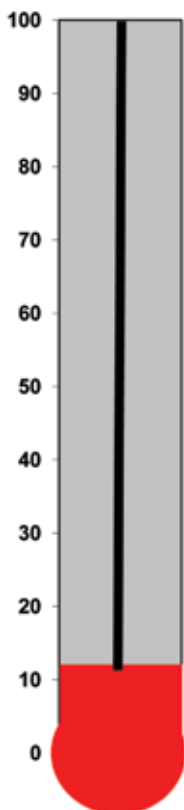
**10. Making the Decision** – There are a lot of factors that go into making the decision on hiring a contractor for your home improvement project. You should not make your decision on price alone. A low bid could be an indicator of an unqualified contractor or use of poor quality of materials. If you prefer to obtain multiple bids, be sure to carefully compare the scope of work to confirm all bids are estimating the same detail of work? You should consider the overall quality of the contractor and level of professionalism.

The Contractor Connection consumer service program eliminates the hassle of your having to obtain multiple bids and eases the complex decision making process involved in identifying a qualified contractor. With one click of a button, you can have a credentialed contractor who has been vetted by Contractor Connection assigned to your home improvement project. This contractor will be accustomed to providing a high level of customer service at a fair and reasonable price using an industry approved estimating system. Their focus will be providing exceptional customer service to you in a timely manner.

\*\*\*\*\* **THE HEAT IS ON** \*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\* **JOIN OUR FHA TEAM** \*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\* **PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR 2012 DUES** \*\*\*\*



**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Amounts:**    \_\_\_\$50    \_\_\_\$30    \_\_\_Other  
[\$50 per household/\$30 for members 65 or older]

**Dues may be paid through PayPal by visiting our website at [foresthillsdallas.org](http://foresthillsdallas.org) or by sending a check, payable to:**

**Forest Hills Association • P.O. Box 180897 • Dallas TX 75218**

 % Paid 2012 Membership     % Still To Go

# 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.

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

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## YARD OF THE MONTH

for May 2012

Greg and Kathy Estell of 8566 San Pedro Parkway were awarded yard of the month for May. Even though their home is relatively new, their landscape looks seasoned and has great curb appeal with a lovely curved sidewalk and masses of seasonal color. Thank you for keeping our neighborhood beautiful!



## YARD OF THE MONTH

for June 2012

Bill and Sharon Hill are the recipients of the yard of the month for June at 8358 San Leandro. Their neighbor Josephine Brown recommended them for their continuous seasonal color through the use of bulbs and perennials. Cannas, tiger lily and gladiolus are in bloom right now. Thanks Bill and Sharon for the lovely seasonal color and wonderfully maintained yard.



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