



Forest Hills

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Secretary Elect: LuAnn Tunell

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Service League: Mary-Pat Smith,
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Serv. League Elect: Shelly Klem,
Tamila Southand

Arboretum Liaison: Lottie Minick

Sanger Elementary School:
Sharon Goodwyn, Linda Ortman

Animal Alert Chairs:
Pat Cage, Susan Wells

Newsletter Editor/Communications:
Neoma Twining

The Reporter

JUNE 2007 ISSUE

The Faces of FH Animal Alert!



Pat Cage (left), Susan Wells (right) and Lilly

The neighborhood's new Animal Alert program is growing by leaps and bounds. Over 75 dogs and cats have already been registered! If you are the owner of a pet and haven't yet registered, please do so immediately. It's easy and takes only minutes.

To register your pet, simply e-mail Susan Wells at sbwells0918@sbcglobal.net. She will promptly send you a form. Once you've completed one form per pet and attached a picture - you just send back to Susan. She will enter the data into our system and keep you updated on any current "alerts" as they arise.

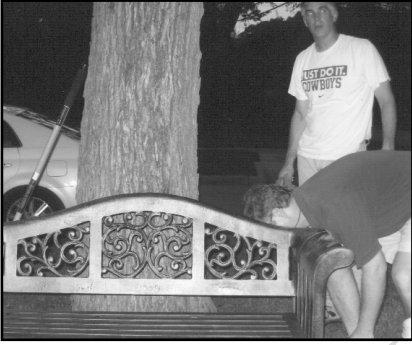
To report a Lost or Found Animal - call Pat Cage at (214) 460-1269. She will check our data base to see if there are any "matches" and if so, provide you with that information so you can arrange to unite owner and pet!

Volunteers are still needed to serve as Foster Care Givers. These are people with big hearts who are willing to share their home or backyard for a short period of time with "Found" animals until they can be reunited with their owners. Let Pat or Susan know if you are willing to help.

Donations - Please help! The Animal Alert! project has been made possible due to many who have given generously of their time and effort. However, we still incur costs such as printing, food, office supplies etc. Although it is not mandatory, a donation of \$5, \$10 or whatever you can afford will be greatly appreciated. Checks should be made out to: Forest Hills Homeowners Association/Animal Alert project (be sure and add this tag line) and mailed to our neighborhood's Treasurer Gina Bender at 8222 San Fernando Way.

Read more on page 7

Benches in the Ground



If there were service hours awarded to adults, this month's recipients would be Grant Wall and Kevin Twining. Both men were on hand to install FH's first dedicated median bench.

The aluminum benches are beautiful and blend nicely with our landscape and trees. The actual color of each bench is coffee/copper blend. The name plates appear at the top of the benches arc giving credit to the residents who invested in FH's beautification program.



We thank Grant and Kevin for their time.



WILLIAM J. HILL, P.E.

214-320-2933 office

214-505-3661 direct

bill@hillengineeringservices.com

www.hillengineeringservices.com

Home, Structural and Foundation Inspections
TREC #6276

Dallas City Crews Not in Compliance

We are experiencing problems and fielding complaints right and left from residents. The problems are mounting in regards to construction crews, water pipeline crews and median maintenance. We are trying to hold the city to their promise to clean up any messes made by crews. Specifically here are some of the complaints:

Pipeline Installation crews:

- 1) Several mesh gutter protectors have been left strewn across lawns or simply thrown in medians.
- 2) Safety cones and striped pylons have been left in roadways after crews left area.
- 3) The roads are in worse condition than before due to truck traffic and unearthing of cement to place new water lines.
- 4) Crews are simultaneously working two streets which blocks entrances and exits. (There are 4 crews contracted to work at one time.)

Median Maintenance:

- 1) Garbage and debris is being left in medians.
- 2) Mowing has been an issue (possibly due to rain totals higher than normal).
- 3) Trees the city promised to trim are still sitting with overhanging and broken limbs.

New Home Construction Crews:

- 1) Nails in streets/cars ending up with pierced tires.
- 2) Too many signs advertising different contractors in yards.
- 3) Workers parking cars that block natural entrances and exits.

We have been on the phone with the city. If you see a problem, call 311 and make an official report. This ensures our neighborhood gets more attention. The medians were mowed after repeated calls to the city.

Please help us keep this neighborhood in good shape. Do your part, call when you see areas that need attention.

311 - City of Dallas



Garland Road Vision Develops

by Gloria Tarpley

Everyone in East Dallas, and in Forest Hills in particular, is very keenly aware of how rapidly change is coming to this area, and of the need to make sure that the change is one which respects its existing character, while bringing true progress, as well. To that end, Gary Griffith, Dallas City Council Member for District 9, has sought to look forward proactively and has created the Garland Road Vision Advisory Committee, to be co-chaired by Bob Weiss (currently Chair of the City Planning Committee), Susan Enarson, a member of the Lake Park Estates Neighborhood Association and a resident of Lake Park Estates, and Gloria Tarpley (Forest Hills resident, and ex-President of the Forest Hills Neighborhood Association). The Committee has seventeen members, representing various constituencies impacted by Garland Road, such as the Arboretum, Casa Linda, Doctors Hospital, and the various neighborhood associations, among others.



The purpose of this committee is to take a long, hard look at the Garland Road corridor, from 635 through to Gaston and on to Downtown Dallas, and to consider how to maximize the assets of the roadway and its surroundings, while planning for future development of the area in a manner consistent with the needs and desires of those who most actively use Garland Road.

Currently, the area to be considered by the Committee has not been included in any City of Dallas bond issue for future work, although TxDOT is planning specific work to be done in the near future on the Garland/Buckner intersection. The goal of the Garland Road Vision Committee is to be a vehicle for the planning of the future of the Garland Road Corridor in a manner consistent with the wishes of those who most use it. To that end, the Committee will be fundraising in order to fund a study by a professional urban planner, with the goal that such a study will provide a blue print for a future bond issue of the City of Dallas. As a part of the process of finalizing the study, there will be a series of "town hall" meetings, so that anyone who wishes to be heard on the subject can come and make suggestions and propose a direction to be taken.

The goal of the Committee is to chart a course for future development so that there is a coherent plan in mind as different projects may be anticipated in the years to come. There is no particular agenda for such development, but rather, the desire to gather a consensus from those most affected by Garland Road so as to ensure a future development which is consistent with such consensus. Please stay tuned, and plan to bring any thoughts or suggestions you may have to the Committee in town hall meetings or by contacting the members of the Committee over the months to come. The future of Garland Road affects us all, and deserves considered thought and planning by all. Thank you.

OOPS! - Forgot to give credit where credit is due. Doug Kerr is the photographer whose photos were widely featured in last month's Issue. We regret the error!

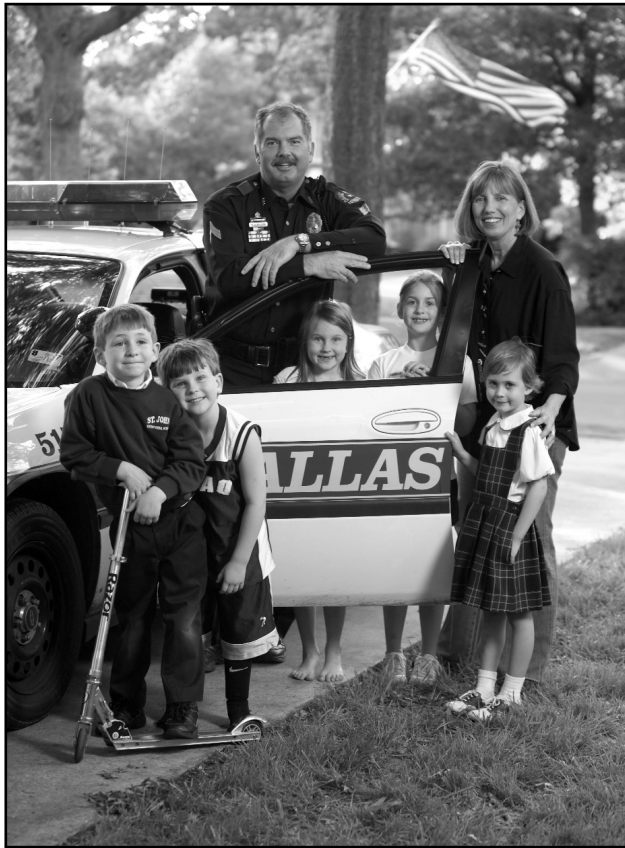
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FOREST HILLS SECURITY PROGRAM TESTIMONIALS



"I have paid for the security program since its inception. You listen to the mayoral candidates, and the one thing they all promise is to "put more cops on the streets." In my mind, we're doing that already. The decline in robberies here in Forest Hills shows that it's working, and I applaud all those who do pay for it and especially the FH Security board who actually run the program. I will make an effort to remember the quarterly months. January. April. July. October." - *Ed and Susan Wisneski, San Cristobal*

"We do tend to have a false sense of security. I feel the residents appreciate that there is less crime in the neighborhood, but they forget it's mainly because of the Security Program's patrol officers, Rod Dillon, David DeTamble and Dave Wilson. I am always surprised, actually shocked when I see an arrest report of some slime bag and see he was apprehended right here on Santa Clara! We can never let up on our security awareness and the fight against crime. We can't wait until something bad happens to a loved one or us before we remember to make that quarterly pledge to the Forest Hills Security Program. That is one of our best lines of defense." - *Judy Whalen, Santa Clara*

"Bob and I walk BlackJack late at night and so often the officers stop to talk as they are cruising by. Makes us feel so safe." - *Lottie Minnick, San Cristobal*

DID YOU REMEMBER YOUR PLEDGE TO SAFETY?

Due the beginning of every calendar quarter (January, April, July, October) If you prefer, you may pay \$120 \$180, or \$240 for two, three or four quarters.

Please send or deliver your check to: Forest Hills Security Program, 8432 San Fernando Way, Dallas, TX 75218.

Your pledge is essential to the maintenance and continuation of this effective program. Thank you for supporting the Forest Hills Security Program!

Compliments and Concerns or Payment Inquiry Judy Whalen 214 324-9894 jwreps@earthlink.net

Please include this information with your payment

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Not a Member of FHNA - No Benefits!

Recent treasurer reports show only 33% of our neighbors are participating in FHNA by paying their annual dues. The goal for the FH board through December 2007 is to reach 50% participation.

One idea to encourage involvement is to INCLUDE all paying members in the FHNA with continued newsletter delivery and neighborhood benefits. Those who opt not to participate financially, will not receive any benefits.

During this month's board meeting, the board voted to introduce new "social benefits." Hosting parties for different neighborhood groups such as those without children. Those aged 55 - 65 and so on. There is a great need to expand our reach instead of catering to a small percentage. Many new ideas were exchanged that will be more inclusive of groups untapped. New committees are being formed to encourage branching into areas and families we're reaching. Support us and if you have ideas, please email Mary Pat Smith at basmps@sbcglobal.net.

Award Presented to Forest Hills

"For The Love of the Lake" volunteer, Joan Shopoff presented a lovely granite award to the Forest Hills Association for ten years of being a part of the "Adopt a Shoreline" program. President, Bill Foerster accepted the award. "For the Love of the Lake" (FTLOTL) is an enthusiastic, energetic group of volunteers dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of White Rock Lake Park as an urban oasis.

The "Adopt-A-Shoreline" program is a Dallas Park and Recreation program administered by FTLOTL. Whether you are new to the area or a lifelong resident, consider joining Joan the second Saturday of the month for the Shoreline Spruce-up. The section Forest Hills adopted to maintain is between the fishing dock along Garland Road, going west, past the spillway to the corner at Winsted Rd. Take the whole family! Joan believes it is a great opportunity to teach your children responsibility to the environment and to instill in them the spirit of volunteerism. On the second Saturday of each month, volunteers report to the FTLOTL office at the Northeast quadrant of Casa Linda Shopping Center, facing Buckner and Doctor's Hospital. Arrive between 8:00 and 9:00 a.m., sign in as "Forest Hills Homeowners Association" group, and you will get gloves, bags and other items that you will need that day. The organization holds fun and informative monthly get-togethers, and sponsors many beautification programs around the Lake. Contact FTLOTL with questions at 972-622-7283 or info@whitetocklake.org. You may also email Joan at joans@plano.gov.



Falling Trees: Bigger Issue Than We Think



It is becoming a too common a sight throughout Forest Hills. Fallen Trees, and we're not talking about the little ones. The May - June storms have not helped our situation. But the truth of the matter is, plenty of our big trees are very old trees. Some would have fallen with or without the help of storms from mother nature.

The Benefits of Trees. Most trees and shrubs in cities and neighborhoods are planted to provide beauty or shade. These are two excellent reasons for their use. Woody plants also serve many other purposes and it often is helpful to consider these other functions when selecting a tree or shrub for the landscape. The benefits of trees can be grouped into several categories.

Environmental Benefits. Trees alter the environment in which we live by moderating climate, improving air quality, conserving water and harboring wildlife. Climate control is obtained by moderating the effects of sun, wind, and rain. Radiant energy from the sun is absorbed or deflected by leaves on deciduous trees in the summer and is only filtered by branches of deciduous trees in winter. We are cooler when we stand in the shade of trees and are not exposed to direct sunlight. In winter we value the sun's radiant energy. Therefore, we should plant only small or deciduous trees on the south side of homes.

The Solution? Plant more trees. This fall FHA will partner with the FH Garden Club to purchase trees wholesale, have them delivered to the neighborhood and resell them to residents for the sole purpose of replenishing our stock. If each household plants one or more trees, we protect the integrity of FH for years to come. More will be published about The Benefits of Trees in upcoming Issues of The Reporter.

Source/ISA/Trees Are Good



Forest Hills July 4th Parade

WEDNESDAY, JULY 4th, 2007

9:00 AM

Theme "American Idol"

Time to put on your creative thinking caps and plan your costumes, and bike/trike or float decorations.

Be sure to include your pets.

This years' parade will begin line up at the intersection of Forest Hills and Breezewood at 9:00 AM. Parade will begin at 9:30 AM and commence on the 8500 block of San Fernando Way where refreshments will be served. Note: this years parade, because of change in location, will **NOT** include a picnic.

Contest will include:

Trike and Bike Decorating for ages 6-8, 8-10, and 10-12, over twelve

Most patriotic costume ages 6-8, 8-10, and 10-12, over twelve

Best float/car

Best American Idol look-a-like

Pet Contest will include:

Best costume for large and small breed

Most creative costume large and small breed

Best themed costume large and small breed

Best owner/pet look alike large and small breed

*To volunteer or help please contact Mary-Pat Smith at
214-328-4839 or basmps@sbcglobal.net*

An Issue of Confinement - Pet Death in FH

"Several weeks ago we came home from dinner to find our family cat of 9 years mauled to death. After much investigation we determined the culprits to be two of our neighbors dogs who have history of being loose instead of confined. These dogs have also bitten a neighbor as she was mowing her yard. What will it take before it is a child, or other pets that are killed or maimed because of a neglectful owner? "

Neighborhoods all over Dallas are facing similar issues. It's wonderful to have a family pet. It's criminal to have loose pets stalking other pets with the end result being death. This is not the first such incident reported in Forest Hills. There have been an unusual number of incidents such as this happening all over the city. The Dallas Police Dept. has fielded many such calls from distraught pet owners. The question has been put before the FH Animal Alert committee. What rights do pet owners have when their pet is killed by another pet?

PET PICTURE OF THE MONTH!

Pet pic of the month: to get this monthly spotlight started, here is our first pet "photo" of Otto and Olive Wells. You may not recognize Otto now as he is full grown and weighs 90 lbs! Alas, Olive remains the same size.

To submit your photo for consideration - e-mail to sbwells0918@sbcglobal.net.





PAWS PAGE



Lakewood Pet Grooming

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THE POSTAL SERVICE NO ONE HEARS ABOUT

Submitted by Susan B. Wells

Some of you may know that our 14 year old dog, Abbey, died last month. The day after she died, my 4 year old daughter Meredith was crying and talking about how much she missed Abbey. She asked if we could write a letter to God so that when Abbey got to heaven, God would recognize her. She dictated and I wrote:

Dear God,

Will you please take special care of our dog, Abbey? She died yesterday and is in heaven. We miss her very much. We are happy that you let us have her as our dog even though she got sick. I hope that you will play with her. She liked to play with balls and swim before she got sick. I am sending some pictures of her so that when you see her in heaven you will know she is our special dog. But I really do miss her. *Love, Meredith Claire.* P.S. Mommy wrote the words after Meredith told them to her.

We put that in an envelope with two pictures of Abbey, and addressed it to God in Heaven. We put our return address on it. Then Meredith stuck some stamps on the front (because, as she said, it may take lots of stamps to get a letter all the way to heaven) and that afternoon I let her drop it into the letter box at the post office. For a few days, she would ask if God had gotten the letter yet. I told her that I thought He had.

Yesterday there was a package wrapped in gold paper on our front porch. Curious, I went to look at it. It had a gold star card on the front and said "To Meredith" in an unfamiliar hand. Meredith took it in and opened it. Inside was a book by Mr. Rogers, "When a Pet Dies." Taped to the inside front cover was the letter we had written to God! In it was the opened envelope (which was marked Return to Sender: Insufficient address). On the opposite page, one of the pictures of Abbey was taped under the words "For Meredith." We turned to the back cover, and there was the other picture of Abbey, and this handwritten note on pink paper:

"Dear Meredith,

I know that you will be happy to know that Abbey arrived safely and soundly in Heaven! Having the pictures you sent to me was such a big help. I recognized Abbey right away. You know, Meredith, she isn't sick anymore. Her spirit is here with me - just like she stays in your heart - young and running and playing. Abbey loved being your dog, you know. Since we don't need our bodies in heaven, I don't have any pockets so I can't keep your beautiful letter. I am sending it to you with the pictures so that you will have this book to keep and remember Abbey. One of my angels is taking care of this for me. I hope the little book helps. Thank you for the beautiful letter. Thank your mother for sending it. What a wonderful mother you have! I picked her especially for you. I send my blessings every day and remember that I love you very much. By the way, I am in heaven but wherever there is love, I am there also. *Love, God and the special angel who wrote this after God told her the words."*

As a parent and a pet lover, this is one of the kindest things that I've ever experienced. I have no way to know who sent it, but there is some very kind soul working in the dead letter office. I just wanted to share this act of compassion.

May the feet of God walk with you And His hand hold you tight. May The eye of God rest on you and His ear hear your cry. May the smile of God be for you and His breath give you life. May the Child of God grow in you and His love bring you home. Amen

Home-made Remedy for Fleas

*(The Dallas Morning News
06/05/07 Ladye Sparks)*

"Yes, fleas seem to be bad this year, and they may get worse. The vinegar trick is adding two tablespoons to a quart of your pet's drinking water. The result isn't acidulated enough to bother pets, but it is strong enough to do the trick on fleas. The process takes a few days, so try not to get discouraged."

Garden Club News

KEEPING OUR TREES HEALTHY

How do I protect my tree from being damaged in a storm?

Storms in all shapes and forms create havoc with trees throughout the country. It's bad enough losing a big tree, but the greatest danger in a storm is the property damage and casualties that can occur when big trees fall. Preparing trees for these natural disasters is a must and should be done well in advance of the stormy season. To help ease these dangers, have a professional arborist evaluate your trees. Doing this will help you determine potential weaknesses and dangers. Over the years, growing trees will "catch" more wind and become heavier, so they are prone to increased mechanical stresses, thus increasing the chances of failure. Larger trees will also affect an increased area should they or their larger limbs fall. This means that power lines, homes and other structures that might not have been threatened a few years ago might suddenly be under threat by a tree that has grown.

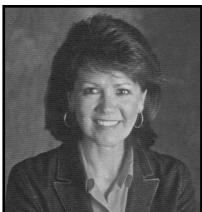
Consult a tree care professional. Ask the arborist to evaluate problems you have found and prioritize treatment. You should also ask the arborist to look for signs of potential hazards, such as stress cracks, weak branches and other subtle or hidden indicators of potential hazards. Look at your trees for the following warning signs:

- Wires in contact with tree branches. Trees may become energized when they are contacted by electric wires.
- Dead or partially attached limbs hung up in the higher branches that could fall and cause damage or injury.
- Cracked stems and branch forks that could cause catastrophic failure of a tree section.
- Hollow or decayed areas on the trunk or main limbs, or mushrooms growing from the bark that indicate a decayed and weakened stem.
- Peeling bark or gaping wounds in the trunk, also indicates structural weakness.
- Fallen or uprooted trees putting pressure on other trees beneath them.
- Tight, V-shaped forks which are much more prone to failure than open, U-shaped ones.
- Heaving soil at the tree base is an indicator of a potentially unsound root system.

Remember, too, that a tree is a living thing, and its integrity and stability changes over time. Don't assume that a tree that has survived 10 severe storms will necessarily survive an eleventh. By following nationally recognized pruning standards, you can successfully reduce the weight and length of individual tree limbs as well as the tree's resistance to wind movement through the crown. Cabling and bracing techniques can be used to provide additional structural strength for individual limbs, or even entire trees.

Information taken from the Tree Care Industry Association's website www.tcia.org, formerly National Arborists Association.

Letters to the Editor:



Neoma Twining
Newsletter Editor

Hello Ms. Twining,

I am a neighbor near Alex Sanger . . . can you tell me why the lawn at the school is mowed like a field? There are large areas of tall weeds and dead bushes. The Forest Hills Association is very concerned with the beauty of our neighborhood, as I am. Why do they disregard this area?

Randy Kalis

Randy, if the neighborhood could legislate the mowing, we would do so. We have talked with the district. They have jurisdiction over the mowing so we cannot dictate how we wish it mowed.

I am going to forward your email (with your permission) to Dr. Larry Allen. He is the principal. My guess is the response will be the same. Sanger is at the mercy of the city group hired to mow it. I concur. It does not look as nice as it could.

Thank you for your concerns. We will press further with your initiative.

Neoma Twining/Communications Dir. FH.



"I Live in Forest Hills" - A Real Community

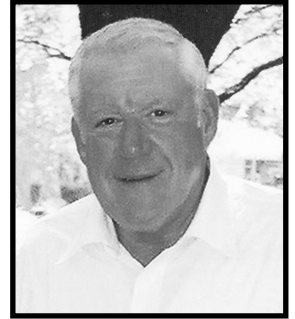
How many times do we all get asked during the week . . . where do you live?

I am sure every one of us living in Forest Hills is proud to say . . . "I live in Forest Hills."

The response that I have received over my 10 years of living here on Forest Hills Boulevard . . . "Oh that is such a beautiful community, big beautiful trees, large lots, beautiful homes and so close to White Rock Lake."

When I meet people who don't know Dallas, I am always so proud to describe this "residential community" adjacent to the largest inner-city, man made lake in the United States and across the street from the Dallas Arboretum.

We are all very fortunate to have chosen this magnificent residential community to make our homes.



KERA Channel 13 recently televised a special titled: Subdivided - Isolation and Community www.subdivided.net.

This special which in part featured little Forest Hills spoke to the qualities and characteristics that are needed to have "a real community."

The contrast was made to the sprawling new subdivisions of today and the older communities of years past.

This special could have just as easily been about the larger Forest Hills where we all live and make our homes.

We in Forest Hills "have created a real sense of Community" over many years. Here is a short list of the things that have been accomplished to make Forest Hills the Community that exists today:

- Neighborhood volunteers to serve on the Homeowners Association Board and Committees (Forest Hills Association)
- FHA Newsletter-communications
- FHA Community socials, meetings, holiday celebration gatherings, parades, art festivals, tree plantings.
- Code enforcement, planning, Arboretum liaison
- FHA involvement in issues effecting our quality of life: cut through traffic, crime, utilities upgrade, and street paving.
- FHA 5 year effort to establish a "rezoning" protecting the value of our property and the character of our community.
- Home owners who "Care" about this community and have taken the time to know their neighbors.
- FHA established security patrols to minimize crime
- Forest Hills has become a "united community" who the elected officials at Dallas City Hall listen to and respect.
- Beautification - over 75 trees planted (not nearly enough).
- FHA dues and contributions to Security Patrol.

The list could go on for another page.

Risk of Losing "the Real Community"

Given all of the volunteer time, planning, money and accomplishments that we have achieved over the years we are at risk of losing the qualities and characteristics of "the real community".

The majority of the Forest Hills Homeowners don't pay their Annual Dues (a minimal amount). The FHA needs money to maintain and continues to build the strength of "real community"

Volunteers are needed to help plan and initiate events that bring homeowners and their families together versus the large subdivision characteristic of separating people into not caring about community or their neighbors.

Preserving our Community Life

Every homeowner needs to, at least, pay the minimum amount of their dues of \$25 per year per adult member.

Homeowners need to get involved in some way with the other volunteers working to preserve and improve our community.

The FHA needs to hear from you as to what "you" think needs to be done by your Association.

Join the FHA and attend our meetings. There has always been "strength in numbers."

Forest Hills Association has one of the finest group of volunteers it has had in years. I have been involved for 7 out of the 10 years I have lived here.

Please join in and help preserve this "real community." We need your Help!

John Mitchell

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OF FOREST HILLS
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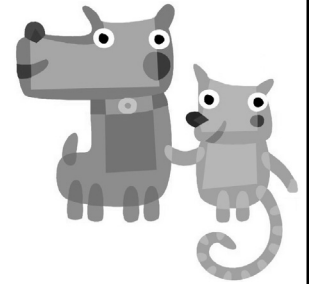


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SPCA of Texas/The Colony
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972-625-5545 • Fax 972-624-2238



TREE MEMORIALS

Planting a tree is special. In order to keep the "Forest" in Forest Hills, we are about to embark upon a new venture to keep trees growing strong in our neighborhood.

For every new baby born, a new tree. With the passing of a neighbor, a new tree. For any other recognized occasion, at the request of family, a new tree. These trees will be living memorials for whom they are designated.

Walton's Gardens, a long-time business partner of Forest Hills, has generously agreed to supply the trees at 25% discount to any Forest Hills resident for this special program.

We have also partnered with Trophy Crown Co. to have inscribed metal plates attached to the designated trees.

If you are interested in this program email Neoma Twining at ntwining@swbell.net. She will answer any questions you have and help the process along. Please consider this program to honor your loved ones or to celebrate life. Its one way we can give back!

Support Your Community - Join the Trend this Summer!

Forest Hills Association dues are payable on a calendar basis (*independent of your Security Program participation*). Dues are paid for every adult member of a Forest Hills home at a minimum of \$25 each, however all amounts are welcome.

Contributions are used as follows:

- ✓ Subsidize this great Community Newsletter
- ✓ Underwrite communication venues - FHA.com (upcoming) and FHA Phone Tree
- ✓ Underwrite your great neighborhood social events
- ✓ Water and maintain the medians
- ✓ Pay the common electricity expense for irrigation power
- ✓ Support community needs, including White Rock Lake, Alex Sanger and FHSP

Without your participation we could not continue our work and play as a community Association. *Let's resolve 100% as a great show of community support in 2007!*

✂-----

Forest Hills Association 2007 Dues

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Dues Enclosed: _____ \$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$75 _____ Other

Payable to Forest Hills Association, c/o Gina Bender, P.O. Box 180897 Dallas 75218 or to 8222 San Fernando

✂-----



Forest Hills Association
P.O. Box 180897
Dallas, TX 75218



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