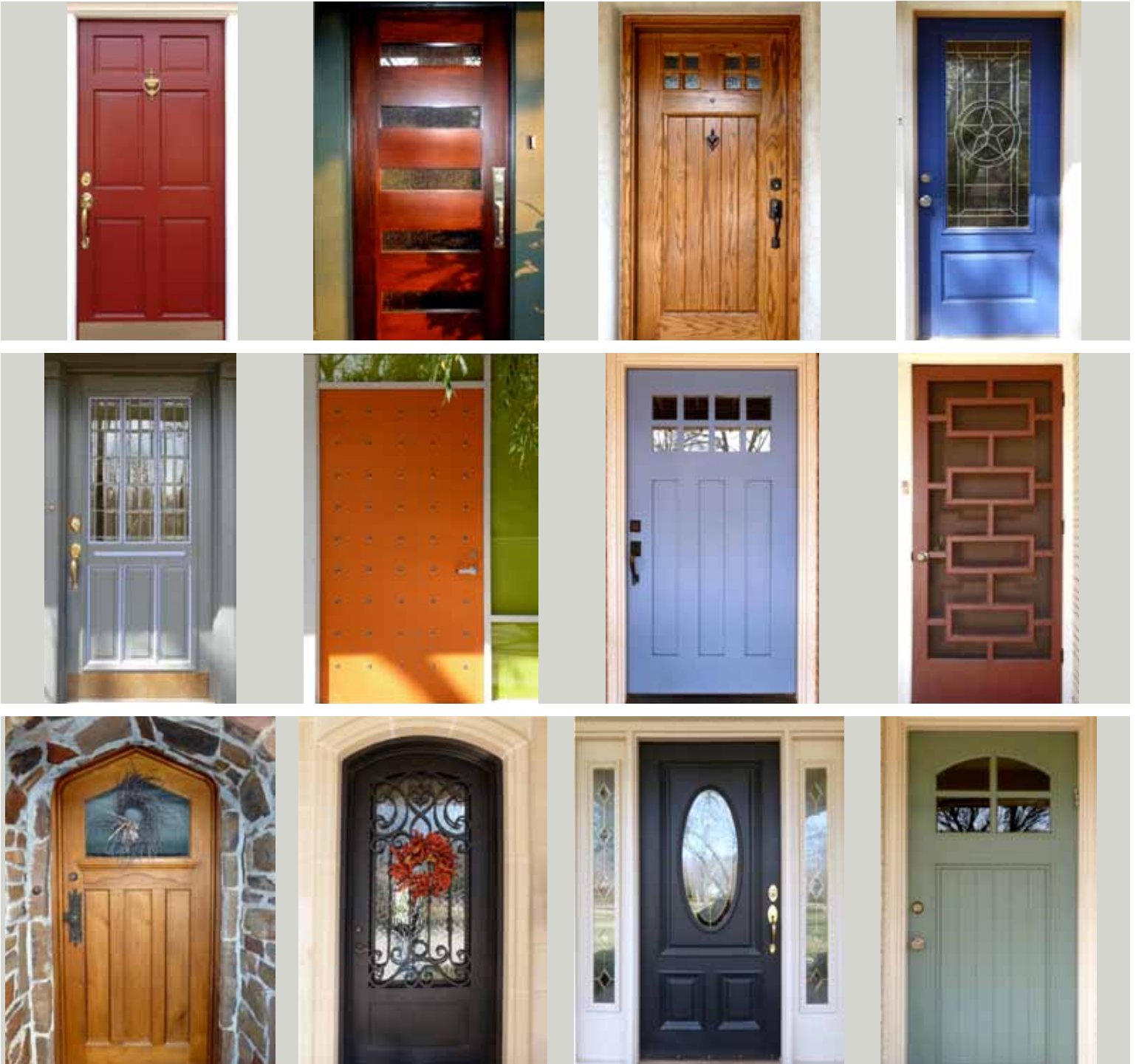




FOREST HILLS NEWS

March-April 2012

www.foresthillsdallas.org



Keeping in Touch...Door-to-Door

Forest Hills Calendar of Events

March 31st – Forest Hills Children’s Network Egg Hunt from 2:00 until 3:30 p.m. Triangle Park between San Pedro and San Benito Way

Every Month – Second Saturday Love of the Lake, White Rock Shoreline Spruce-up. For details: <http://www.whiterocklake.org> or 214-660-1100.



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

If you follow the local news at all, by now you have read or heard that the DFW area is no longer in an official drought. This does not mean, however, that dry conditions won't continue through the early summer. But the most recent El Nino weather event in the Pacific ocean, which events are believed by scientists to be the triggers for long-term weather cycles in the United States, is expected to be over this summer. This should bring a return to our "normal" weather pattern for another seven years or so. Even so, it is always wise to use good water conservation techniques in landscaping our yards.

By now, everyone has had a chance to view the new FHNA website released this past January. The new website has the same link as before: <http://www.foresthillsdallas.org/>. With its many new features, there is surely something useful for everyone.

The FHNA 2012-2014 Directory has gone to print and will be ready for distribution soon.

For those who could not attend the February Semi-Annual General Meeting held at Times Ten Cellar Annex building, you missed a good one. In addition to a free glass of wine, attendees were treated to an interesting presentation by Bonnie Bradshaw regarding the extensive variety of wild 'neighbors' who share our forest, many of which go unseen most of the time.

Also at the February meeting, members voted on a long overdue modernization of the FHNA bylaws. These changes will permit the FHNA board of directors to conduct future business much more efficiently.

As winter loosens its chilly grip and spring awakens, a more pleasant time to be outdoors awaits. May you enjoy it to the fullest.

SPOTLIGHT ON A NEIGHBOR

Spc. Jordan Knight of :

B Company
1/508th Parachute Infantry Regiment
4th Brigade Combat Team
82nd Airborne Division

Medic Platoon 1st Battalion
Headquarters Company

Line Medic Bravo Company
2nd Platoon



Jordan has begun his nine month deployment to Afghanistan. As a line medic he is responsible for the physical and mental well being of thirty three soldiers. He will go on every mission and patrol without any R&R for the full nine month deployment. Jordan is the son of George and Debbie Knight and a life long resident of Forest Hills.

BEAUTIFICATION NEWS

First Year Care for New Plantings

Newly planted trees and shrubs need extra care to become established with a healthy root system. The size of the plant and environmental conditions will determine how long it takes for the plant to acclimate to its new home. For trees, the caliper size can be used as a guide. For example: A 1” caliper tree will take approximately one year to become established. A 2” caliper tree may take two years. The larger the plant material, the longer you will need to provide supplemental care. During this acclimation period, plants will put much more energy into developing a root system than in producing top growth. A healthy root system is the key to your new plant’s success. For large trees and shrubs, you should not expect to see much green growth the first year, depending on the variety. Larger specimens can take up to two years to begin producing top growth.

PLANTING TIME

The time of year you plant will affect how quickly your new plants become established. Hardy container trees and shrubs can be planted anytime of the year, even winter. Spring & Fall are the easiest times to establish new plantings. If you plant new trees and shrubs during the heat of the summer, be prepared to pay keen attention to the water needs of your new plants.

WATERING

All new trees and shrubs will require supplemental hand watering after planting for up to a year. Do not rely on your sprinkler system alone to provide adequate water to new plantings, especially in summer months. Use a hose to directly apply an ample sized puddle around the root-ball. Let the water absorb and then repeat. Water plants early in the morning. Do this approximately:

Winter: 1 time per week

Spring & Fall: 2 times per week

Summer: 3 times per week

You can also use Gator Bags or Soaker Hoses to provide a slow drip to the individual plants. Apply 2-inches of Mulch on top of the root ball to conserve moisture.

FERTILIZATION

Nitrogen fertilizers that encourage green growth are not required at planting time. A liquid Root Stimulator, however, is very important. Water in your new plants with a Root Stimulator, such as Carl Pool Root Stimulator or Liquid Seaweed with Superthrive, twice a month for the first 6- months. Plants that prefer acidic soil, such as dogwoods and Japanese maples, should also receive an application of a soil acidifier, such as Dr. Iron, at planting time. After the first year, use a general fertilizer, such as NHG 6-3-0 or Texas Tee, each spring and fall.

PREVENTATIVE CARE

We are here to answer your questions and provide solutions. Should you notice a problem with your newly planted tree or shrub, please let us know right away. Bring us a leaf sample or close-up photo if you can. Many problems can be diagnosed by answering a few questions about growing conditions. Most stressed plants can make a full recovery if the problem is diagnosed early.

Free landscaping seminars to be held March 24

Learn how to have a drought-tolerant landscape by attending free seminars Saturday, March 24 at the Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center Auditorium, 17360 Coit Road.

Landscape designer and author Bonnie Reese of Beautiful Landscapes will be the speaker at both sessions. The first 100 attendees at each session will receive a copy of Reese's book, "Common-Sense Landscaping." Attendees can also enter a drawing for free bags of Green Sense organic fertilizer from Rohde's Nursery and Nature Store.

Water-Wise Landscape Design 101 – 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, March 24

Whether you have a new landscape or plan to update an existing area, it is critical to begin with a good design. This program teaches the principles of landscape design with an emphasis on how to create a beautiful landscape that will save resources - natural and financial.

Fantastic Plants for North Texas – 1:30 to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 24

Using colorful photographs, Bonnie Reese demonstrates the natural beauty of native and adapted plants that thrive in the North Texas region. Learn when, where and how to plant each of the recommended plants, their size and height at maturity, seasonal color, texture and more. This program provides information on trees, shrubs, vines, perennials, groundcovers and turf grasses.

The seminars are sponsored by Dallas Water Utilities Conservation, City of Dallas Stormwater Management, and Texas AgriLife Extension.

WHITE ROCK EAST GARDEN AND ARTISANS TOUR

Mark your calendars for the 11th annual White Rock East Garden and Artisans Tour! This year the tour will be held on Sunday May 20, 2012 from 10 - 5. This is a major fundraiser for the beautification committee and in the past two years we earned \$5000.00. Please support this effort by attending the tour and volunteering the day of the tour. Call Barb Michaels (214-327-3817) or Andie Comini (214-328-0508) for more information.



GARDEN CLUB NEWS



Garden Club Gift Exchange

The garden club had their annual post Christmas gift exchange in January at the home of Delores Cullivan, a former Forest Hills resident. Great fun was had by all in attendance. We did not meet in February but are having a program on composting in March and will be visiting the Trinity River Audubon Center In April. May is our final meeting for the year and another field trip is planned. We will be visiting the Arboretum to see the Dale Chihuly art exhibit - "Chihuly Nights". Call Barb Michaels - 2140327-3817 for more information. Also check our website - foresthillsdallas.org.



PAWS PAGE



Spring Training: 5 Routines to Start This Season

Posted by Pet Sugar

Things are really heating up — the weather, that is — so use rising temps as an excuse to create a doggie athlete routine for Spring. I’ve come up with five activities to start a fitness plan, so find inspiration and get started now!

- 1) Walk For Speed and Distance – You’ll have to take your dog on potty breaks anyway, so why not use warmer weather as an excuse to take longer walks on new routes? Don’t make him only sniff the same old spots — and try to work up a sweat by alternating your normal pace with speedier legs in between.
- 2) Play Impromptu Doggie Sports – From retrieving sticks to the simple toss of his favorite ball, running and catching and throwing and fetching all equal quite the heart-pumping workout for you both.
- 3) Play Organized Doggie Sports – There are plenty of organized sports for humans and their pups, from obstacle courses for agility, to flyball and disc dog, too. Give those competitive dogs a duty this season and get in it to win it
- 4) Play Organized Doggie Sports – There are plenty of organized sports for humans and their pups, from obstacle courses for agility, to flyball and disc dog, too. Give those competitive dogs a duty this season and get in it to win it
- 5) Go Ride a Bike – If you love biking — and there’s a pet-friendly trail near you — bring a pooch around next time. For this activity, the dog must be under very solid voice control with few fast-moving bikes on the path. To keep a pet safely on lead, pick up a Springer instead of trying to get a grip on a leash and the handlebars, too.

Walking Your Dog



When you’re walking your dog in Forest Hills, always have it on a leash. It’s against the law to walk your dog off-leash unless you’re at a specifically designated dog park. In Forest Hills this means not letting your dog run loose in places like other residents’ yards, in the park area bordered by San Pedro & San Benito, in the medians of San Rafael, Forest Hills and Breezewood, at the Ferris cemetery, on Sanger school grounds or along railroad tracks.

Dog owners might be heard to say things like; “My dog is well behaved, she always stays in the yard, he never runs off to chase anything, she won’t leave my side, he won’t bite.” We never know when a certain set of circumstances can trigger the most docile of pets. Your dog has dog instincts and doesn’t have the logic to know what will happen if they run into traffic or approach another dog. You are there to do the thinking for them and follow the law.

Also while walking dogs, remember those “doggie bags”. Since dogs can’t scoop their own poop, we two-legged animals are required by law to do it, Section 7-4-8 of the Dallas City Code requires that you have in your possession a device for the safe and sanitary removal and disposal of dog feces. Do not throw the doggie bags or the contents into the sewer drains as it will come back to haunt you and others!

Violators of the leash or pooper-scooper laws may be reported to the City of Dallas by calling 3-1-1. If the violations are observed by an Animal Services Officer, the violator can be subject to a citation.



FOREST HILLS SECURITY PROGRAM

QUARTER 1 (Jan, Feb, Mar) \$60 QUARTER 3 (Jul, Aug, Sep) \$60

QUARTER 2 (Apr, May, Jun) \$60 QUARTER 4 (Oct, Sep, Nov) \$60

Inquire if you are up to date in your contribution to safety fhspen@aol.com or 214 535-2077.

FHSP is a resident-funded police patrol benefiting the whole neighborhood.

Crime prevention at its best!

If you prefer, you may pay in advance \$120 \$180 or \$240 for 2, 3 or 4 quarters by check, automatic bank payments or PayPal through Security Page of the Forest Hills website foresthillsdallas.org

Payment To: Forest Hills Security Program, 8432 San Fernando Way, Dallas, Texas 75218

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



ASK SERGEANT DILLON

See Something – Say Something Call 911

Q. Some residents are apprehensive calling 911 about someone or something suspicious because they feel it might be too insignificant to report. The Forest Hills Security Program continues to encourage our residents to call 911, pointing out that something small just might become a big piece of evidence and advising them to get as much information as they safely can (like descriptions of person/vehicle and license numbers, etc). Just how important can a non-emergency 911 call become?

(This hypothetical response from Sergeant Dillon represents how small reports can build big clues.)

A. Say that we get an “insignificant” report of a suspicious person wearing a yellow shirt knocking on doors without trying to sell anything. No crime has been committed and we don’t find the suspect at the time. Later that day an alarm is activated at another person’s home nearby. As we are responding to the alarm call, we see a person matching the previous description wearing the yellow shirt walking in close proximity to the house at which the alarm is activated. He is carrying a backpack that appears to be full. The officer continues to the alarm to find the door kicked in and obvious signs of a burglary. The officer gives a description of the suspect walking nearby and other officers spot and detain the suspect. Investigation reveals jewelry and other items in the suspect’s backpack that do not appear to belong to the suspect. The homeowner arrives and gives a description of the items that have been taken from their home. The description matches the items in the suspect’s possession. The suspect is arrested and property returned to the rightful owner. The suspect is taken to be interrogated by Burglary Detectives and ends up admitting to other burglaries in the neighborhood. Detectives apply for a search warrant of the suspect’s home and a judge signs it. A subsequent search of the suspect’s home results in the recovery of other items taken in recent burglaries. A gun found during the search is tested by forensics and turns out to be a gun used in a murder in the area. The burglary suspect is now linked to a murder. The tiny nugget of information regarding a person knocking on doors without any legitimate reason has now developed into a murder investigation and is featured on Discovery Channel 48 Hours.



Sgt. R. C. Dillon is now with the Southeast Investigative Unit, Robbery/Burglary/Theft, previously with the Northeast’s Unit and has been the lead officer for our Forest Hills Security Program since 2003.

WELCOME TO OUR HOME

Meet Stephanie DeTamble, the newest patrol officer of our Forest Hills Security Program!

Stephanie is currently assigned to the Northeast Patrol and works 4th watch (7pm-5am). She is a Drug Recognition Expert, which means that she evaluates people who are intoxicated on drugs other than alcohol. She has previously been on Central's CRT (Crime Response Team), which was actively engaged in preventing burglaries and catching violent criminals. While on that team, she created a database for Central Substation that tracked burglars and robbers. She has since passed the torch of that database to someone else and is now an intelligence officer for 4th watch since her transfer to Northeast.

DeTamble graduated with honors from the University of North Texas with a Bachelors of Science in Criminal Justice. She is currently planning to get her masters in Criminal Justice starting in January. In her free time, Stephanie likes to run, spend time with her loved ones, and travel.

You can usually see Stephanie here in Forest Hills on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Be sure to wave and say hi!

How lucky we are to have the men and women in blue on our Forest Hills streets!



TIPS FROM A NEIGHBOR

How to report an inoperable Street Light

Access <https://www.oncorstreetlight.com/> and type in the street address to locate the street light on the map, select and submit. It is that easy or you can call 1-888-313-4747 and provide them the numbers located on the post that identify the street light.

FOREST HILLS CHILDREN'S NETWORK

Egg Hunt

Saturday March 31st from 2:00 until 3:30 p.m.

Triangle Park between San Pedro and San Benito Way

*Two egg hunts for children four years of age and under
and for children five through twelve

*Special Golden Eggs in each hunt

*Visit from the Easter Bunny

*Face Painting

*Games

If you wish to participate please drop off twelve filled plastic eggs at 8416 Santa Clara Drive between Friday afternoon and Saturday no later than noon. If you wish to volunteer for this event, please email us at fhchildrensnet@aol.com.

WELCOME NEWCOMERS!

San Benito - 8300 Block
Mark and Susan Stuart

San Cristobal - 8200 Block
Roger & Deborah Ivey

San Cristobal - 8300 Block
Jay & Jessica Lane

Santa Clara - 8100 Block
Chris & Andrea McCauley

Santa Clara - 8500 Block
Shannon & Keri McCall
Eric & Nakita Johnson

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

FOREST HILLS OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

The FHNA Board of Directors recently determined that an awards plaque should be created to visibly honor the special few volunteers who have contributed so much to the Forest Hills neighborhood. Designated the Forest Hills Outstanding Service Award, the first two recipients are Margaret Smith and Neoma Twining for 2010. Margaret Smith is a former President and Treasurer of the FHNA to name just a few of the many things she was involved in. Neoma Twining was for many years the editor of the Forest Hills newsletter, The Reporter. She is also responsible for the many benches in the medians throughout FH and for keeping the Association going during times when participation levels were low.

There were two award recipients in 2011 as well: Tamela Southan and Shelly Clem. Both recently stepped down from their positions on the FHNA Board after five years. Tamela served as the Service League Committee Chair while Shelly Clem served as the Chair of the Social Committee. Together, they were largely responsible for almost all of the wonderful FHNA social events which we have enjoyed during their long tenure.

For 2012, it was decided to honor three special individuals sharing something in common: they have worked silently for years in the background to promote communications and safety in the neighborhood. Sharon Hill is the Forest Hills website webmaster. She created our first FH website and, after many long months of hard work, the newly revised, highly improved website which you can visit today. She also provided invaluable help in setting up our Forest Hills Facebook page. Chuck Hodge has been sending out those timely FH email eblasts announcing FH social events, meetings, crime watch notices and other matters of potential interest to FH residents. Finally, Jo Kirksey has been the Treasurer of the Security Patrol organization for many years, collecting dues, paying officers and generally keeping track of the FHNSP records. All three recipients for 2012 are silent warriors volunteering to help make FH a safer, better place to live.

The awards plaque itself was designed and made by Jimmy Squires who, together with his wife, Vikki, live at 8254 Forest Hills Blvd. It incorporates a recently retired Forest Hills street sign topper. The FHNA Board gratefully acknowledges the many contributions made by these first seven recipients of the award.



BE AWARE OF SPRING TIME SEVERE WEATHER

Do to the nearly 100 tornadoes that struck 12 states last Friday, we are passing along this FEMA notice today. There are websites at the bottom that you may want to refer to for safety issues.

Consider Safety in Advance

Contact: Office of Emergency Management 214-670-4275

WASHINGTON, D.C. Over the last few days states throughout the Midwest have been affected by deadly tornado outbreaks. State emergency management officials in Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky and Tennessee have reported damages from tornadoes in some areas. Our thoughts and prayers are with those who have lost loved ones and those whose lives have been affected by the storms.

According to the Storm Prediction Center at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the tornado conditions in portions of the South are likely high today. FEMA, through our regional offices in Kansas City, Mo., Chicago, Ill. and Atlanta, GA, is closely monitoring conditions in the Midwest states affected by this severe weather, and FEMA stands ready to support the states as requested. FEMA also remains in close contact with our federal partners at the National Weather Service, especially since these storms can sometime occur unexpectedly with little to no warning. As we approach the Spring season, it is important to remember that springtime often brings severe weather including thunderstorms, tornadoes and flooding.

“Severe weather can strike when you least expect it,” says Craig Fugate, Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. “Remember, no matter where you live, it’s important to listen to NOAA Weather Radio and local news and to monitor for severe weather updates and warnings, and follow instructions of state and local officials.”

There are simple steps we can do to be prepared. FEMA urges families to have a plan for what you and your family will do if there is a disaster, and prepare an emergency supply kit both at home and in the car to help prepare for power outages or impassable roads. It’s important to listen to NOAA Weather Radio and local news to monitor for severe weather updates and warnings and follow the direction provided by local officials. Be sure to check your homeowner or renter insurance. Most homeowner’s insurance does not cover flood damage. Most everyone can purchase flood insurance – including renters, business owners, and homeowners. Individuals can learn more about their flood risk, and how to get their flood insurance policy, by visiting www.FloodSmart.gov.

If you have severe weather in your area, keep in mind these safety tips:

- Continue to monitor your battery-powered radio or television for emergency information.
- Injury may occur when people walk among disaster debris and enter damaged buildings. Wear sturdy shoes or boots, long sleeves and gloves when handling or walking on or near debris.
- Mobile homes, even if tied down, offer little protection from tornadoes and should be abandoned. A mobile home can overturn very easily even if precautions have been taken to tie down the unit. Residents of mobile homes must plan in advance and identify safe shelter in a nearby building.
- If a flood is likely in your area, be aware that flash flooding can occur. If there is any possibility of a flash flood, move immediately to higher ground. Do not wait for instructions to move.
- Do not touch downed power lines or objects in contact with downed lines. Report downed power lines and electrical hazards to the police and the utility company.
- After a disaster, be aware of possible structural, electrical or gas-leak hazards in your home. Contact your local city or county building inspectors for information on structural safety codes and standards. They may also offer suggestions on finding a qualified contractor to do work for you.

When natural disasters strike, such as tornadoes, the emergency responders and public works personnel, volunteers, humanitarian organizations, and numerous private interest groups in the local areas are the first to provide much needed assistance. During this time, FEMA continues to coordinate closely with state and local partners to monitor what needs may arise as a result of the storms.

More information on tornado preparedness and flooding is available at www.ready.gov or www.listo.gov.

We also have a local website at: <http://www.knowwhat2do.com/think/tornado>

Kenny Shaw, Managing Director

Office of Emergency Management

214-670-4275 Kenny.Shaw@dallascityhall.com



2012 Dale Chihuly Exhibit Volunteer Opportunities

May 5 – November 5, 2012

Dale Chihuly, one of the most famous contemporary artists in the world and credited for raising hand-blown glass to a fine art, will exhibit monumental glass sculptures in vibrant colors displayed in over 12 locations among the Arboretum's many outstanding gardens – the glass sculptures will be illuminated for dramatic effect during weeknight viewings.

Volunteer Opportunities include Chihuly art hosts for both days and evenings to interact with guests and help answer questions about the spectacular sculptures. General volunteers will be needed to meet and greet visitors, direct Arboretum guests and help in the gift store.



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Photo by Connie Chamillis

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RECYCLING EVENT: SHREDDING, ELECTRONICS, AND HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

Saturday, March 31st, 9 am to 1 pm

Lake Highlands Elementary

9501 FERNDALE @ LAKEMERE

(in the back, off Lynngrove Rd.)

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Truck Provided by Ebby Halliday Realtors of White Rock/Lake Highlands

RECYCLE ALL THIS! FREE!

ELECTRONICS

(TV's, microwaves, cameras, cell phones, appliances, power tools, vacuum cleaners, electric razors, air purifiers, etc.)

OFFICE EQUIPMENT *(Computer equipment, fax machines, typewriters, inkjet cartridges, printers, scanners, routers, shredders, and copiers.)*

VIDEO GAMES *(Video games, systems, and accessories)*

MULTIMEDIA ITEMS *(DVD and VHS movies, audiobooks, and music CDs. Must include original covers.)*

CLOTHING, JEWELRY & ACCESSORIES

(Pants, coats, shirts, purses, belts, shoes, hats, watches, hand-crafted and costume jewelry, etc.)

SPORTING GOODS *(Golf clubs and bags, athletic helmets and pads, baseball bats and gloves, basketball shoes, cleats, hockey sticks, ice skates, and roller blades)*

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS *(Guitars, percussion, strings, woodwinds, brass, and electric keyboards)*

TOYS & GAMES *(Action figures, blocks, dolls, stuffed animals, etc.)*

COLLECTIBLES *(Comics, figurines, trading cards, etc.)*

NON-FICTION BOOKS *(Cookbooks, craft books, textbooks, etc.)*



NO CHEMICALS OR FURNITURE!!!

STAY FOR SOME FUN!

Grab a hot dog & other goodies for lunch!

Show your Lake Highlands spirit! LH clothing, jewelry, and more for sale!

Drop off non-perishable foods for Network!

Kids have fun in the Bounce House!



**Lake Highlands
Elementary**

**PROCEEDS BENEFIT
OUR 2012 SKY RANCH
SCIENCE CAMP!!!**



WANT MORE INFO?
Contact Cindy Engel
cindita_e@yahoo.com
214-348-6835

LISTING OF FHA OFFICERS – COMMITTEE CHAIRS - LIAISONS

FHA President

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fhnapresident@aol.com

Crime Watch Chair

Judy Whalen
fhnacrimewatch@aol.com

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lottie@minickassociates.com

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Communications Chair

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FHA Treasurer

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Seper Rasti
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Sanger Elementary Liaison

Jason Sellers
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FRI Liaison

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Beautification Chair

Barbara Michaels
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Children's Network Chair

Amanda Johnson
fhchildrensnet@aol.com

Webmaster

Sharon Hill
sharonhill@tx.rr.com

Service League Chair

Lori Hunt
FHAServiceleague@aol.com

Animal Alert!

Andie Comini
andiecomini@aol.com

Arboretum Liaison

Rick Sorrells
fhnavp@aol.com

******* 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 or by sending a check, payable to:

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

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!



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YARD OF THE MONTH

for February 2012

Larry and Dianne Solomon are the recipients for the YOM for February. Their lovely home is at 8522 Forest Hills. They recently updated the landscape in their front yard. Checkout the color and design. Diane says "the annuals are placeholders for perennials coming in the Spring". Also note the recently planted live oak trees - thanks for keeping up our "forest".



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- Highest GCI Individual – 1st runner up
- \$10 million in Sales - Highest Volume Individual

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