

Forest Hills News

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2021

www.foresthillsdallas.org



FOREST HILLS CALENDAR OF EVENTS



January

Time to pay both FHNA & FHSP Dues please. See page 5 for an explanation of the difference.

Bulky Trash

January - Trash can go out Thursday, Jan. 7th - Sunday, Jan. 10th
Pickup begins the week of Monday, Jan. 11th

February - Trash can go out Thursday, Feb. 4th - Sunday, Feb. 7th
Pickup begins the week of Monday, Feb. 8th

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

Newsletter articles and ads are due Monday, Feb. 1 for the March/April 2021 Issue.



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy New Year Neighbors!

I believe we are all very happy to say farewell to 2020. What a year it's been! But in spite of all the stress, inconvenience and illness, I'm very proud of how Forest Hills has responded.

Early in the pandemic we rallied. Yard signs were everywhere. They included FHNA's own social distancing signs, others celebrating our healthcare heroes, and more with positive and loving messages. Families made colorful chalk pictures on their driveways and sidewalks, again with messages of humor and cheer for all to see. Book clubs and other groups kept going with outdoor or virtual meetings, and a lot of us first became acquainted with Zoom. Neighbors were outside often, greeting each other from a safe distance.

Helping Hands was organized to help vulnerable neighbors get deliveries and assistance. So many of us participated in the virtual Security Fundraiser where twice the funds of last year were raised! FHNA dues payments are also more than twice those of the prior year.

I am especially impressed by our Social Chairs Carrie Bevers and Sara Winwood. They creatively came up with novel ideas to promote neighborhood togetherness during the time of COVID. We've had an Easter Egg hunt, where kids found "eggs" displayed at many homes, Easter and 4th of July car parades, a choose your own time to do the course Turkey Trot and a socially distanced, highly successful, Holiday Bazaar and Neighborhood Tree Lighting.

This difficult year has made me realize even more the great neighborhood spirit and community feeling in Forest Hills. Let's all give ourselves a pat on the back and hope things get back to normal soon.

Gratefully,

Jane Ojeda



FHNA Officers - Committee Chairs & Liaisons

FHNA President

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janewojeda@gmail.com

FHNA Vice President

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FHNA Secretary

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VACANT

Garden Tour Chairs

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FLOTL Liaison

Jeff Peterson

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FRI Liaison

Dan Ortman

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Farewell Sweet Friend

The Forest Hills Book Club Pays Tribute to “Star Member”

Sadly, on September 21st, 2020, Forest Hills said goodbye to a longtime San Leandro neighbor and friend, Rocky Ford.

After a career as a math teacher and earning a Master’s Degree in counseling, Rocky and her husband, Robert, traveled the world. The Ford family moved into Forest Hills in 1964. Rocky was an active member of the Dallas Theater Center Guild, Dallas Symphony League, numerous book clubs and bridge groups. Being an alumni of the University of Texas in Austin, she was an avid Longhorn fan and loved cheering on her alma mater in any sport. Rocky was always ready and willing to go anywhere and could make a connection with anyone she met.

Rocky is preceded in death by her husband of 61 years, Robert G. Ford. She had 3 children, 10 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.



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WHO ARE WE? WHAT DO WE DO?



FOREST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (FHNA)

501(c)(4) Non-profit
Board of Directors bi-monthly meetings
Semi-annual neighborhood meetings

Voluntary Household Dues January sign-up - Yearly

\$50
\$30 (over 65 senior discount)

DONATIONS WELCOMED

PURPOSE: Enhances the community spirit through beautification, social events, and communication.

- Provides community, city, and environmental information.
- Addresses construction, planning, zoning.
- Manages common medians and beautification projects.
- Plans neighborhood social events.
- Communicates via newsletter, signage, directory, website, eblasts, social media.

foresthillsdallas.org



FOREST HILLS SECURITY PROGRAM (FHSP)

501(c)(3) Non-profit
Board of Directors quarterly meetings

Voluntary Household Dues

January 23 sign up - Yearly
(1-23 IN campaign) - Multiple levels

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

DONATIONS WELCOMED

are you
IN?

PURPOSE: Provides security and education supporting personal safety and crime prevention.

- Enlists off-duty uniformed officers to patrol in DPD vehicles.
- Schedules 55 patrol hrs. weekly/ 65 holiday patrol hrs. weekly.
- Provides home watch for participants, while they are away.
- Communicates crime activity via newsletter, signage, eblasts, and social media.
- Monitors/tracks crime stats and trends to schedule patrols.

foresthillssecurity.org

FOREST HILLS ANNUAL HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING & HOLIDAY BAZAAR

by Sara Winwood and Carrie Bevers

As with everything else in 2020, the Forest Hills Annual Tree Lighting looked different this year. On December 6, a sunny, beautiful day, neighbors of all ages safely gathered to enjoy delicious hot cocoa, candy canes and cookies. Masks, social distancing and hand sanitizer were required.

The neighborhood added a bazaar to its festivities. Vendors from Forest Hills lined Breezewood with booths and showcased their many talents. To tempt your taste buds, our local foodies sold charcuterie boards, honey, jams, jellies, syrup and delicious baked goods of all kinds. For the first time, vendors brought lovely frames and unique pieces of furniture, as well as concrete counter tops and composite crafts. Artisans provided handmade book arts, crocheted items, jewelry,

note cards and tie dye. Local makers enticed neighbors with bath bombs, holiday scented candles, lavender spa products, mask sprays and mosquito deterrents. There were even a few restored, vintage bikes for sale! We are proud to have so many creative and talented entrepreneurs in Forest Hills! The tree stayed lit from 4 to 6, so that all neighbors could arrive, grab treats, see the lights and shop the bazaar for holiday gifts without having to congregate at a specific time.

The Forest Hills Security Program and Forest Hills Waste Warriors were there to share information with neighbors. Even Nacho, the 1963 Land Rover, from the Forest Hills Car Club got festive for the holidays and made an appearance. The Dallas Grilled Cheese Co. arrived to take orders for dinner and while

neighbors waited for their delicious grilled cheese sandwiches, the tunes of

the holidays filled the air. Santa and his elves made a few appearances, circling the block and keeping an eye out for good boys and girls. Sergeant Mike Mata even stopped by for a visit!

Thank you to all the Turkey Trot participants who picked up their Nothing Bundt Cakes bundtlet award. Thank you to Megan Dennen with *Life in the Hills* magazine for helping find sponsors for the event. And, a BIG thank you to Nothing Bundt Cakes in Casa Linda for their generous donation!

Special thanks go to Carol Lander for the use of her sleigh, Lisa Fontane for photography and Joe Bevers, Matthew Fontane, Will Rainey and Eric Winwood for their roles in spreading holiday cheer.

It has been a rough year, but the joy and merriment of the season could not be stopped. Happy Holidays to all Forest Hills Neighbors and cheers to 2021!







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are you IN?

Forest Hills Security

Annual "SIGN IN" Day is January 23

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

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

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

Credit Card via PayPal:
www.foresthillssecurity.org

Payment Inquiry:
FHSPtreasurer@gmail.com

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Your reports Help us, Help you!



JoinUS!



A New Year! Finally 2021 is Here!

Through out the pandemic it was comforting to know that our neighborhood Security patrols continued to be here for us. With the October Fundraiser and increased holiday hours we were able to secure our neighborhood for the remainder of the year. Our crime stats did not show an increase in crimes.

What about 2021?

Our annual 1-23 sign up day is here. We have enough funds to start the year, but NOT to maintain those hours through 2021. This is a continuing process and WE NEED you to Stay IN, Join IN and continue to Invest IN your neighborhood security program.



This one day sign up has been very successful, as it helps us remember the importance of the Security program and the time for our annual renewal. Let's make our goal 80% of households participating!

Why January?

So we can be prepared for the entire year of 2021! Officers are in short supply and we want to keep our great team. To know how many hours we can afford for the whole year gives us much more PEACE of mind! Our officers can be scheduled and our neighborhood will be confident that we have the shifts we need covered. Haven't we all had enough stress?

How to JOIN IN?

It is easy. Pay by mail or go online to www.foresthillssecurity.org. Choose the highest level you can and click! **You are IN!**

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

2021 FHNA MEMBERSHIP LETTER



DEAR FOREST HILLS NEIGHBORS,
What a year 2020 was ... happy to have it finally behind us now! But, amid all of the craziness that last year brought, I never stopped feeling exceedingly lucky to be living here in our beautiful Forest Hills. This very idea of “feeling lucky” to live here, was our Forest Hills Neighborhood Association (FHNA) Membership Drive theme last year.

And I am so happy to say that last year 50% of our neighbors shared the same sentiment, and showed their love and appreciation for Forest Hills by supporting the FHNA and paying their 2020 dues. Our neighborhood can only be this wonderful with your continued financial support.

In 2019, only 20% of homes were paying their annual dues, but in 2020 we were able to raise that amount to 50%! We had two major Membership Drives last year (in March and July), but this year, we would like to focus all of our fundraising energy to the first several months of the year, to help us plan our budget.

You may have also noticed that in 2020, we had a revived sense of community, which was in great part due to our wonderful new Social Chairs, Sara Winwood and Carrie Bevers. These two wonderfully creative ladies have lots of energy and fantastic ideas for 2021 ... but it is only through your support that the FHNA will be able to afford and budget for these events accordingly.

The Forest Hills Neighborhood Association is a nonprofit organization, with a Board of Directors, whose mission is primarily to enhance our fabulous community through various ways. The spirit of Forest Hills is brought to life through our annual social events (Easter Egg Hunt, 4th of July Picnic & Parade, Turkey Trot & Tree Lighting), the beautification of common areas (electricity and water for irrigation), by providing semi-annual general meetings, and by communicating with our neighbors through our Forest Hills website (which was just re-done!), eblasts and the *Forest Hills News* newsletter. The FHNA clearly cannot run effectively without neighbors pitching in and paying their membership dues.

We have strived to keep our dues as low as possible over the years, assuming that a majority of neighbors will voluntarily participate. The annual FHNA dues are \$50 per household, and only \$30 for our senior households.

Are YOU able and willing to show your support this year by paying your 2021 FHNA dues? We have lots of exciting ideas planned, but we need your support! Even if you haven't paid your dues in the past (perhaps confusing them with the separate Security participation? Or maybe you didn't know what the dues were being spent on!?), we'd really love to add you to our annual donor list in 2021!

As we welcome in a new year ... the FHNA board also cordially welcomes your 2021 contribution! If you paid your dues last year – thank you!! You certainly helped make 2020 as enjoyable as possible. And now, I'd like to personally thank you in advance for paying your 2021 dues this year!

And back by popular demand, we will once again be holding a \$100 drawing to a local restaurant to help encourage as much early participation as possible! The drawing will be held on St. Patrick's Day (Wednesday, March 17th, 2021), which is the perfect day to remind us that we are so LUCKY to live here in Forest Hills! Good luck to all of you and hope you have the luck of the Irish this year!

From one neighbor to another, thank you for your support!

Be well,

Melissa Dermarkar,

FHNA Membership Chair

To pay your 2021 FHNA dues now via PayPal, please visit us at www.foresthillsdallas.org. OR you can MAIL your check (payable to FHNA) to: Forest Hills Neighborhood Association
PO BOX 180897, Dallas, TX 75218

THANK YOU 2020 DONORS

To all of the wonderful and generous neighbors who are committed to keeping Forest Hills an amazing place to live by paying their annual membership dues – thank you! The FHNA couldn't do what we do without your support and annual membership dues! We really are LUCKY to live in Forest Hills!

Below, please find a list of all the neighbors that the FHNA would like to extend a very sincere THANK YOU to for paying their 2020 annual FHNA membership dues.

This list reflects payments made between January 1st and November 30th, 2020. If your name doesn't appear as you'd like it to, or something is amiss, please let us know by emailing foresthillsmembership@gmail.com.

Jean Akers	Kathleen Cothrum &	Daniel & Sharon Heffernan	Mark & Maureen Maurer	Griselda Rocha &
David Allen	Angie Mitchell	Henry Donald & Patricia Alvey	Keri & Shannon McCall	Muditha Karunatileka
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Richard & Kathleen Arthur	Chris & July Crockett	Chris & Wendy Holder	Katyanne O'Mara	Ketric & Christa Sanford
Eliane Bailey	Tim & Peg Cronin	Charles & Zeta Hollingsworth	Tony Miketnac &	Maria Schleuning &
Ron Balentine & Julie Dunn	William & Lisa Daves	Debby & John Hooper	Luanne McNutly	Richard Giangiulio
Joel Ballew	Mark Davis	Alan & Beth Howard	Robert & Elizabeth Mennel	Anna Seo & Harry Kim
John & Deborah Bane	Tiffany & Brad Davis	Stephanie & Adam Howells	Marian & Robert Merryman	John Shankles
Don & Carmen Banks	Thomas & Mary Deighton	Aaron Hubbard &	Abbie Meyering &	Joan & Stephen Shopoff
John & Mary Beakley	Barbara Delabano	Tiffany Disheroon	John Sadler	David & Jessica Short
Ginny Beasley	Alain & Melissa Dermarkar	Brad & Lara Huddleston	Frankie & George Milner	Mary & Michael Simons
Nils Benson &	Christoph & Elizabeth	Jane Hulsey	Catherine Missildine Hardman	Gina & Doug Sims
Mariana Andreeva	Descarpentries	Denny & Lori Hunt	Beau Mitchell &	Sandy Sloan
Ken Bernstein & Barbara Clay	Layne & Laura Deutscher	Marshall & Lee Ann Hunt	Stefanie Scruggs	Earl & Nina Slocumb
Paula Berry	Steven & Tammy DeWolf	Jon & Corrine Iadonisi	Camilla & John Mitchell	Bruce & Mary Pat Smith
Joseph & Carrie Bevers	Tehsel Dhaliwal	Anne Marie & Milton Iskra	Denise & Gustavo Molina	Rick & Margaret Sorrells
Ellyn Biltz & Cathy Link	Jennifer Dickerson	John & Christiane Jamieson	Jason Morahan	Chris Spafford &
Jim & Phyllis Biltz	Rick & Lolis Dignan	Jeffrey & Jenny Gruber	Anita & Kevin Moran	Annelise Pederson
Michael & Jennifer Biry	Dean & Anna Dominguez	Amanda & Price Johnson	Al Morrison & Pat Fugate	John Spieker
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Paul & Carol Black	Bryan & Samantha Dugger	Kory Jones & Bo Kalabus	Alessandra & Ronald Neal	Dorothy Stephens
Evan Bogar	Bill & Brenda Dunklau	James Jordan &	Joseph & Colleen Norton	Greg Stinson &
Scott Bohner	Scott & Darlene Ellison	Barbara Brault-Jordan	Kristen & Greg Norton	Tim Simmonds
Vernon Paul Bordelon &	Skip & Susan Erlbacher	Brian & Allison Jorgensen	Jim & Jeannine O'Bannon	Abbie Strava
Rebecca Moreau	Eduardo & Vicki Espinosa	Guy & Laurie Josselyn	Sarah & John O'Brien	Susan & Mark Stuart
Bruce Borrett	Dawn Estes & David Timmins	Chris & Carrie Kehres	Keith Ogboenyiya	David & Donna Swanson
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Anna & Craig Brinker	Cody & Ashley Fincher	Ron & Debra Klein	Laura Palmer	Bentley & Lauren Tison
Susan & Garry Brown	Mindy & Bill Foerster	Dennis Schnute &	Mark & Cozy Palmer	Lisa Tomaselli & Lori Bailey
Michael & Lucille Buckman	Rocky Ford	Karen Klembara	Chris & Courtney Panatier	David Toops & Julie Glover
David & Martine Buhmann	Kathleen Futrell	Debbie & George Knight	John & Rana Pascoe	Luann & Gary Tunell
Kelle & Cary Buresh	Carol Gantt	Matthew & Julie Koellner	Rakhi & Paras Patel	Mark & Claudia Vasquez
Michael & Maria Byrne	Richard & Beverly Garbell	Elizabeth & Rush Kummer	David & Carol Payne	Phillip & Deborah Vick
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Randy & Debra Campbell	Nancy & Steve Gatens	Steven Ladik &	Harvey & Christy Phillips	Kathy & Grant Wall
Janine & Michael Carley	Nellie Gerard	Mersine Deferios	Blair & Cristin Pogue	Lynne & Jeff Walters
Christopher & Shannon Carr	Christine & William Gietema	Carolyn & Juris Laivins	Jill & Jason Pumpelly	Robert & Linda Westerberg
John & Peggy Casey	Gwen & Dallas Gilbreath	Rodney & Charlene Lake	Robert Quaglia &	Matt & Tina Westmoreland
Jason & Emily Cassidy	Thomas Gillette & June Chow	Steve Lamberti	Sharon Shero	Judy Whalen
Gloria & Lorenzo Castillo	Debra & Greg Gilmore	Bob & Carol Lander	Carl & Marsha Ray	David Whitten
Tom & Julia Cearley	Douglas & Linda Gilpin	Lori & Brad Lee	William Reece &	Kristen Williams
Denise & Ernie Chavez	Wes Gilpin & Susan Bailey	Richard & Nicole Leucht	Camille Johnson	Thomas & Kristen
Greg & Anita Childress	James Glenn & Julie Fineman	James Lob	Howie & Kate Reed	Williamson
William & Lynda Christian	Kathy & Woody Glenn	Stephen & Mary-Meg Lohr	Randy & Linda Reed	Eric & Sara Winwood
James Clark	Paul Gore	Joshua Lund & Amy Jones	Greta & Terry Rees	Jonathan & Kristi Wood
William Clarke	Jason Gorsuch	Richard Lusk	Rick & Linda Reeves	Erin Wynne & Joshua Terry
Seth & Deborah Claus	Patty Goya & Neal Farris	Kim & Dennis Maher	Kimberly & William Reister	Nan Hoong Young &
Paul & Patricia Colacecchi	Laura & Kevin Graham	George Majdalani &	Tom & Wendy Rettinger	James Duff
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Josy Collins	Donna Hanes	John & Caroline Marrs	Kelly & Jennifer Riley	Gary Youngblood
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Seth & Katrina Cook	Tricia Heaney & Mark Ralston	Jay & Carrie Matthiesen	Linda & Frank Roby	John & Sarah Zavala
Jennifer & Ryan Cooper				

Safety is Up to You: Tips for Safer Walks in Our Neighborhood

- Please walk on the CORRECT (left) side of the street facing oncoming traffic.
- Wear bright, white or reflective clothing, and no black or grey after dusk.
- Keep one ear free from earbuds so that you can hear danger, horns, warnings, and cars.
- If your dog is walking way behind you, then you're walking/running too fast for them to keep up. Please pay attention to your short legged friends!



SPOTLIGHT ON THE ARBORETUM

by Terry Lendecker

January is a quiet month in the garden with plenty of pansies as the ground cover, until the daffodils begin to bloom closer to February. General admission is only \$5 for the entire month of January. That makes it a great time to kick start your new year on the one-mile fitness trail throughout the garden! Or just enjoy the quiet beauty as you stroll through or sit in our neighborhood gem.



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Waste Warriors: Thank You Neighbors

With your help, the first Waste Warriors community project was a huge success, exceeding our goal of \$2600! More than 80 households donated! Our 17 trash collectors each received a \$200 Walmart gift card, chocolate, and thank you note! Thank you for helping us start a new tradition!

This is just the beginning of our mission to find creative and collaborative ways to reduce the amount of waste we generate, dispose of it effectively, and inspire others to be good stewards of the Earth.

“ I love that we do this as a neighborhood! ”

What's Next? 2021 Projects Underway

2020 was a time to reflect and change up our daily routines. In 2021, let's make how we think about and dispose of waste part of that change! Here are some ways we plan to make a difference in our neighborhood.

Super Street Sweeps: Get our kids involved and earning community service credit by cleaning up our neighborhood streets and alleys, and picking up hard to recycle items like batteries, light bulbs, and electronics.

Want to join the Waste Warriors?

E-mail neighbors Elizabeth Descarpentries elizabethlylekinhead@msn.com or Lynda Caughey edgy2@comcast.net.

2021 CHANGE CHALLENGE

Bring your own grocery bags to the store!
Did you know you can't put plastic grocery bags in your blue Recycling Ben? The City of Dallas doesn't recycle them.

Learn all the FAQs of recycling at DallasCityHall.com>QuickLinks>Trash Pickup>Recycling>Resident's Guide to Recycling




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7446 East Grand Avenue
Dallas, TX 75214
(214) 324-1500



Honoring & Restoring Forest Hills' Neighborhood History & Natural Beauty



The neighborhoods of Forest Hills and Little Forest Hills in Dallas are located on the original homestead of pioneer Warren Angus Ferris. Our only physical reminder of the history that we live upon is the 1847 Ferris Historic Cemetery, located at corner of San Leandro and St. Francis - home to the final resting place of prominent early Dallas settlers. Due to vandalism over the past 100 years and invasive species overgrowth, this gem has been hidden away from us until last year, when owners of the properties bordering the cemetery joined forces to create the 501c(3) non-profit organization Friends of Warren Ferris Cemetery. The mission is to recognize and honor those buried there; design and execute a landscape restoration plan; beautify and maintain the landscape to the standards of a certified wildlife and monarch butterfly way station; and to promote environmental stewardship.

Cemeteries are important keys to Texas' past. By tying together historical, educational and native wildlife components, we envision the Warren Ferris Cemetery project to be a template guiding other neighborhoods across the state in revitalizing their own fallen cemeteries, as well as for study and improvement of the greenbelt in the middle our Forest Hills neighborhood, extending from San Leandro Drive to Whittier Avenue.

Learn More: www.friendsofthewarrenferriscemetery.org

View the first segment of the upcoming "Friends of the Warren Ferris Cemetery Wildlife Way Station Restoration Project" documentary.

TAKE ACTION

- Contribute: \$50 Family Annual Membership and contribute to specific projects. Please visit our website and navigate to our donate button.
- Volunteer: Learn more of our plans and other volunteer opportunities by visiting our website, or email us at FerrisWildLife@gmail.com. We can't do this without you!
- Follow us on Facebook @FerrisWildLife.



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Car Enthusiasts: Neighborhood Car Club Meetings Going Well

by Denny Hunt & Gabriel Ojeda

The Forest Hills Car Club had its first Cars & Coffee get together on Saturday, November 7th. The weather was perfect and several special interest cars showed up as well as many car enthusiasts. The event was held on Breezewood between Forest Hills and San Fernando. The club now has 27 members. Our second meeting was December 5th, with cars from 1932 to 2019. All cars are welcome, so if you own an Austin Healey, Bugatti, Corvette, DeLorean, Edsel, Ferrari, GTO, Hudson, Isuzu, Jaguar, Kia, Lamborghini, Maserati, Nissan, Opel, Pantera, Quantum, Rambler, Saturn, Toyota, Unimog, Volvo, Willys, XKE, Yugo or a Zamboni, come join the fun and camaraderie. No need to be a collector, just interested!

We are eager to find out how many other treasures are hidden in garages in our neighborhood. If you would like to join the club just email Denny at dennyhunt@sbcglobal.net.



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Forest Hills History: Some Concrete Information

by Gabriel Ojeda

In our neighborhood, you can see some interesting history stamped in the concrete on some sidewalks and curbs. Concrete is a blend of water, sand, aggregates (like gravel) and cement as the binder. Modern concrete was developed in the early 19th century in England and the first concrete road in America was built in Ohio in 1893. Millions of miles of streets and highways have been built since then.



In the early days of concrete construction, it was common for contractors to stamp the concrete with their name and date, for purposes of warranty and name recognition. Many of those marks can be seen in our neighborhood on the curbs and on the sidewalks.

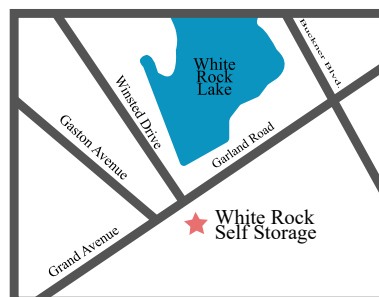


Forest Hills was established in 1924 and construction of the first roads began soon afterwards. Many of the original stamps have been lost to remodeling, driveways and utility cuts. However, here are some of the stamps you can see around our neighborhood. The oldest I have spotted is from November 1926. Can you find one prior to this? If so, please let us know!

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YARD of the MONTH

by Julie Dunn



November 2020
John & Rana Pascoe
8423 San Pedro Parkway

Yes, November's award goes to the Pascoe's ginkgo tree. It's been the most highly photographed and most visited spectacle this fall, as neighbors from near and far watched its fan shaped leaves turn a brilliant saffron yellow.

The tree predates John and Rana Pascoe's residency. "It was about half of its present size when we bought our home in 1984." Rana thinks it was planted back in the 60s by the original homeowners who owned a nursery. "I don't know why people don't plant more of them," as the tree requires little care. Neighbors John Sadler and Abbie Meyering have precious memories of their children playing in and under that tree. "One was especially fond of perching in it for hours on end."

Although it is not well known to Dallas, it is beloved by arborists for its shade and ornamental properties. Resilient to drought and pests, it thrives in sunny, well drained soils and near creek beds. To archaeologists, the ginkgo tree is a botanical dinosaur, the only living species of the earliest prehistoric tree. Fossils of its distinctive fan shaped leaves date back 270 million years!



Once thought extinct, it was rediscovered in China and has been cultivated for its medicinal value by the monks for at least 1,500 years. Western botanists brought seedlings to North America in the late 1600s. Recent DNA analysis reveals their genome is 3.5 times larger than humans, giving them their complex chemical defense system and strong antibacterial profile.

Knowing that ginkgos can live 660 years, it leaves one wondering whether future generations will protect this ancient treasure come what may.



December 2020
Dennis &
Dr. Karen Klembra
8246 San Fernando Way

Less formal than its French cousin, this English garden strives to create an idealized natural enclave within its encircling hedge.

There is something timeless about the place. You could be sitting in front of your 18th century Williamsburg residence or strolling the Wicklow Garden in Chichester, England. Both inspired this home's original design, built in 1996. It became the Klembra's in 2002.

Originally, the garden was more formal, but over time, "we just started planting what we liked." Ferns carpet the Dogwood. Japanese maples shade Oakleaf hydrangeas. Coneflower, Datura, and Joe Pie Weed thrive in sunny spots.

There are unique vistas for every room in the house. The pansies between the bench and the old Crepe Myrtle look lovely from the upstairs office window. The Star Magnolia and Variegated Privet frame the dining room windows. The colorful driveway bed is especially fun to view from the kitchen, where Karen stands at the sink and Dennis mans the cutting board.

To be invited into the garden is an invitation into the family's outdoor living room. It's a great place to converse over a glass of wine, watch the evening approach, and feel the magic of this little sanctuary.



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