

www.foresthillsdallas.org

# Forest Hills News

May - June 2022



## FOREST HILLS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Sun. May 15th @ 10 am - 5 pm**  
Annual White Rock East Garden Tour  
(See pg. 10)

**Sat. May 7th & June 4th; @ 9 am - 11 am**  
Warren Ferris Cemetery Volunteer Days

**Sat. May 28th & June 25th @ 10 am**  
Street & Alley Clean-up

### Bulky Trash

#### May

Trash can go out on May 5th - 8th  
Pick-up beginning Mon. May 9th

#### June

Trash can go out on June 9th - 12th  
Pick-up beginning Mon. June 13th

[dallascityhall.com/departments/sanitation/Pages/default.aspx](http://dallascityhall.com/departments/sanitation/Pages/default.aspx)

Newsletter articles & ads are  
due Wed. June 1st for the  
July/Aug. 2022 Issue





# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Summer days are here bringing pool time, frosty beverages and those anticipated vacations. Thank you to those who turned up for our Springtime events, we hope you enjoyed them! In this edition check out the list of neighborhood homes, including our cemetery, to be included in the White Rock East Garden Tour; learn to identify poisonous hemlock; butterflies and water features and we say farewell to our Newsletter team.

This marks their final issue produced as a team. This decision did not come lightly to them as they are dedicated to our community, but the timing is right for them. After more than two decades serving our neighborhood in one capacity or another, Andie Comini is hanging up her numerous Chair hats, including the Newsletter (for over 10 years!) to say hello again: to her artwork, spending time with her friends and family, rediscovering (or is it finding?) her own yard and traveling Europe with her sister. Jane Ojeda, our fearless Editor for five years will also hang up her hat so she too can rediscover world travel and spend more time with family. Melissa Dermarkar, who has served as a Co-editor for the past three years and Advertising Coordinator for one, will pass the baton on at the finish of this calendar year. These three women have worked tirelessly to ensure our neighborhood is informed and entertained six times a year. We all owe them a huge thanks and we are proud to call them our neighbors.

We welcome our own neighbor-owned vendor, Millet the Printer, who will pick up the production process starting with the July-August Newsletter. **If you are interested in becoming part of the Newsletter team as Chairperson, Editor or Proofreader please reach out to both Katy O'Mara at fhna21.gen@gmail.com and Kathleen Davis at fhnadallas@gmail.com.**



*Katy O'Mara*

## FHNA Officers - Committee Chairs & Liaisons

### **FHNA President**

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fhna21.Gen@gmail.com

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Kathleen Davis - Michaela Klose

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### **Communications Chair**

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### **Board Members at Large**

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Jaimee Slovak

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### **Liaisons**

#### **Animal Alert!**

Christi Cameron

www.foresthillsdallas.org

See pg. 15

#### **Alex Sanger Liaison**

Katy O'Mara

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#### **FH Security Program**

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#### **Ferguson Road Initiative**

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#### **Friends of the Warren Ferris Cemetery**

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#### **Waste Warriors Liaison**

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#### **Webmaster**

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**SOLD**



**KIM MAHER, Real Estate Agent**  
**972-800-9753**

It is our purpose and passion not only to bring magic into our clients lives, but to deliver magic in different ways around DFW. We are committed to giving a percentage of our profit to make other lives better. Last year we gave to organizations like "Mommies in Need", "Carry The Load Foundation" and "Peace Pantry". We also randomly selected people to pay for their groceries, give a waitress a large tip and gave to a family money who lost their jobs. This is what life is all about!

Kim Maher

**TRANSFORMING LIVES ONE HOME AT A TIME!**

**Average \$\$\$ Sold Above List Price**

**8.31%**

*NOW THATS MAGIC, MAHER MAGIC!*

**TOP PRODUCER**  
**DFW 2021**



# YOUR NEIGHBOR: ROBERT KENT

Due to Covid, many people have picked up new interests and hobbies over the last two years. Forest Hills resident Robert Kent did just that and took his sweet hobby and turned it into a new business: Kent Fine Chocolates.



Robert has always enjoyed cooking for his friends and family, and during the 2020 holiday season, he began making chocolate bonbons to give away as gifts. Demand for the chocolates began to grow and Robert decided to organize pop-up shops around major holidays. The business continued to grow and now his chocolates can be purchased at Park Cities Petals flower shop, at seasonal pop-up shops, and shipped nationwide by ordering directly from his website: [KentFineChocolates.com](http://KentFineChocolates.com)

Robert specializes in molded bonbons that feature brilliant colors and a mirror-like finish. He offers over a dozen flavors, from Champagne Caramel to S'mores. To go from empty mold to finished bonbon takes five days, and the process demands precision to the gram. The resulting product is bite-sized perfection!

With Easter and Mother's Day just around the corner, he is busy creating delicious spring-time flavors like Key Lime Pie and Strawberry Shortcake. Visit his website to learn about his next pop-up shop and order some of these delicious treats!

Robert and his wife Rachel moved to Forest Hills just over three years ago and settled on Eustis to start their family which now includes Dorothy (3) and Madeleine (8 months). They are thrilled to live in such a beautiful, friendly neighborhood. Robert looks forward to introducing his tasty treats to as many residents as possible. He loves to share how his bonbons are made on his Instagram page (@KentFineChocolates). Think of his delicious chocolate bonbons next time you are in need of a tasty, beautiful treat!







# SPRING PICNIC & EGG HUNT

On Sunday, April 10, Spring rolled in over Forest Hills with a mix of sun and gusty high winds and the promise of a storm later. Many families and folks of all ages showed up for this annual event. In spite of the wind, the Waste Warriors, Warren Ferris Cemetery, Garden Tour and City representatives were determined to keep their displays up and in place the best they could. Thank you!

Seemingly out of nowhere, a huge Easter Rabbit appeared to kick off the two Egg Hunts: Egg Hunt #1 - Pre-K and Kinder and Egg Hunt #2 - 1st - 5th grade. Dressed in their best and often with baskets larger than they were, little ones raced all over gathering up as many eggs as they could while the onlookers had fun watching. There were over 400 eggs just waiting to be found. Made for some good giggles!



Once again kids of all ages were treated to Kona Ice and delicious waffles from the Waffle O'Licious. YUMMY!



Warren Ferris Cemetery representatives updated their neighbors on their work and about our own local bit of Dallas history. Don't miss stopping by on the day of the Garden Tour.

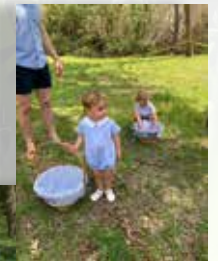
And the Garden Tour Crew visited with neighbors about the upcoming tour on Sunday, May 15th. Three people stepped up to help as volunteers the day of the tour - thank you!

Waste Warriors introduced their first Earth Day Commitment Tree with many neighbors showing their spirit by signing a three-part Earth First Commitment. Folks dropped off recyclables such as light bulbs, batteries and corks and bought homemade sandwiches, cookies, and reusable bags for litter and groceries.

Representatives from the City of Dallas' Zero-Waste Program gave out reusable water bottles and recycling tips, and two members of Dallas's Comprehensive Environmental and Climate Change Action Plan team spoke about how Dallas is one of the nations' most progressive cities in taking action on climate change.



If you took part in the FHNA Walking Egg Hunt, please reach out to [fhnasocial@gmail.com](mailto:fhnasocial@gmail.com) with your address and number of participants so they can get your prize to you. Thank you for participating!





# YELLOW DOOR HANGERS: STREET SWEEP CODE ENFORCEMENT ADDRESSES STORM-WATER POLLUTING

Code Enforcement has requested that we make you aware of an upcoming Street Sweep they will be conducting this Spring and again in the Fall.

As a reminder from the March-April 2022 FH Newsletter, each property owner is responsible for the “drain area” in front of their house. Typically, this is about a 3 - 5 foot area from the curb - depending on your street and drainage.

It is up to the homeowner to keep this area clear of debris (leaves, grass clippings, litter, etc.) that will wash down the city storm drain. From here the storm-water, along with the debris, makes its way to White Rock Creek and the Trinity River.

In the past when debris has built up and blocked the stormwater sewer, it caused severe flooding in parts of our neighborhood on several streets such as San Leandro, San Cristobal, Eustis and Whittier to name a few.

*REMINDER: Property owners, or someone you hire to take care of your property, who directly or indirectly cause waste to end up in the storm drain may be subject to fines up to \$2000.*

Code Enforcement will be checking for debris up and down our streets. If they see a problem in front of your address, they will be hanging a Courtesy Yellow Door Hanger to remind you of your responsibility to clean this area up. The homeowner will have 10 days to address the issue at which time Code Enforcement will be back to make sure it has been resolved. If it hasn't, an Official Notice of Violation will be left for the homeowner. Once again, Code Enforcement will come back in 10 days and if it's not taken care of, will issue an Official Citation.

Please do your part to keep our Forest Hills streets clean and our storm drains clear of debris. Our waterways will thank you!

**City of Dallas  
Code Compliance Services**

**THIS IS NOT A TICKET**

On \_\_\_\_\_ (date)  
Code Compliance Services visited your property  
located at \_\_\_\_\_ (address)  
\_\_\_\_\_ a.m. \_\_\_\_\_ p.m.

**One or more of the following violation(s) were observed.**

\_\_\_\_ High Weeds    \_\_\_\_ Litter  
\_\_\_\_ Bulky Trash    \_\_\_\_ Obstruction  
\_\_\_\_ Illegal Dumping    \_\_\_\_ Illegal Outside Storage  
\_\_\_\_ Parking on Unapproved Surface  
\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Located at the:**

\_\_\_\_ Front    \_\_\_\_ Side  
\_\_\_\_ Rear    \_\_\_\_ Alley

Cleaning up the violations noted above helps ensure the health and safety of the community. Our goal is to work with you. Citations and fines for these offenses are expensive. If you are unable to comply due to physical disabilities, or financial constraints, please communicate this information to your Code Inspector.

\_\_\_\_ (name)  
\_\_\_\_ @dallascityhall.com (email)  
\_\_\_\_ (phone)

<http://bit.ly/DallasCityCode> @DallasCityCode  
Code Concern? Call: **311**.

"Our Product is Service"  
Empathy | Ethics | Excellence | Equity

CCS-FRM-269 Effective Date 05/29/2020 PUB 1514 14 Rev 5



# FOREST HILLS SECURITY

WORKING TO KEEP OUR NEIGHBORHOOD SAFE.

are you  
**IN?**



**HOME WATCH**  
PROGRAM

## DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know current members of the Forest Hills Security Program are eligible to use our Home Watch Program? If you are away on vacation or your home is under construction or vacant, an ENP officer will check on your home to be sure everything is safe each shift someone is on patrol. Please submit your Home Watch Request Form at

least 7 days prior to the start of the watch time period. The form can be found on [foresthillssecurity.org](http://foresthillssecurity.org) or you can request a form by emailing [fhspen@aol.com](mailto:fhspen@aol.com)

There is no limit to the number of times you may use the program throughout the year, however the length of each request is limited to 21 days. If an extended watch is needed, the household must be at least a silver level member (\$350 and above).

## SAVE THE DATE for the Forest Hills is Brewing Event

Our Forest Hills Security Program is busy planning our next fundraiser! Our annual Forest Hills is Brewing event is moving closer to home! This year it will be held at the Filtration Building on White Rock Lake on **Friday, November 4th**. We are always looking for suggestions of cool auction items, Live Auction donations, etc., so if you have suggestions for that, please let us know.



If you or someone you know in the neighborhood would like to take a more active role, we have two lead positions open, Solicitations and Graphics/Communications. This is a great way to meet new neighbors and get more involved with the neighborhood.

Please contact Carol Lander at [carollander@gmail.com](mailto:carollander@gmail.com).

# Contribute Today!

## THANK YOU MEMBERS AND PATROL OFFICERS!

## SUMMER VACATION TIPS

Summer is just around the corner. As we plan our vacations, it's important to think about things we can do at home to reduce the risk of crime while we are gone.

- Ensure all locks have been locked and set your alarm
- Suspend your newspaper delivery or have someone pick them up so they don't pile up on your lawn.
- Leave a light on or set a timer on a light so the home looks occupied
- Share your travel plans with a neighbor. A good neighbor is a valuable tool in crime prevention.
- Enroll in our Home Watch Program!

## 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](http://www.foresthillssecurity.org)

**Payment Inquiry:**  
[FHSPtreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:FHSPtreasurer@gmail.com)

**Home Watch Request:**  
[fhspen@aol.com](mailto:fhspen@aol.com)

### TAX DEDUCTIBLE

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



**DON'T FORGET!**  
If you See Something  
....Say Something!

**#1 CALL 911 #2 EMAIL [fhspen@aol.com](mailto:fhspen@aol.com)**  
**WE NEED TO KNOW TOO! Your reports Help us, Help you!**





## **BUILDING AND REMODELING**

The O'Brien Group has been building and remodeling in East Dallas for 21 years and offers full construction services for all aspects of your home. From new custom kitchen and bathroom upgrades to whole house renovation or adding new spaces onto the home. Shannon O'Brien is the owner and operator. As a carpenter he pays close attention to all details of all phases of the process for high end results. We work closely with interior designers, architects and engineers to make your dreams become reality.

**O'BrienGroupInc.com**  
**214-341-1448**





# CATCH THE SPIRIT! EARTH FIRST

## GOT THIS?



Bubble wrap, Saran wrap, & various plastic bags (including grocery bags)?

## DO THIS!



Throw it in the garbage! Soft plastic - plastic bags, packaging, and film - isn't recyclable by the City of Dallas and clogs up recycling machines.

**Listen:** Recycling! Is it BS? How to Save a Planet, June 24, 2021 (on Spotify).

## WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

- Refuse new plastic and bring reusable grocery bags to the store
- Find a drop off location for the plastic bags collecting under your sink by visiting [bagandfilmrecycling.org](http://bagandfilmrecycling.org) - Beware grocery drop-offs don't always make it to the recycling plant.
- Listen: Solving a Rooftop Solar Mystery, and What's a Nurdle? How to Save a Planet, March 11, 2021 (on Spotify)
- Take your soft plastic to Recycle Revolution, 6835 Forest Park Road
- Sign the Earth First Commitment (watch for our flyer)

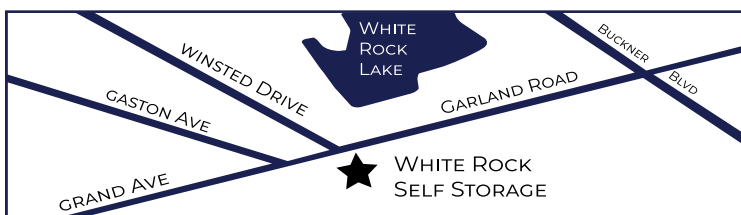


## WHITE ROCK SELF STORAGE

### OUR PLACE IS YOUR SPACE

- Convenient Location
- Heated & Cooled Units
- Packing & Moving Supplies
- Computerized Access Gate
- Tenant Gate Access 6 am - 10 pm Daily
- Individual Door Alarms
- Video Monitors
- On-site Management
- Locally Owned & Operated

### VARIETY OF UNIT SIZES & PRICE OPTIONS AVAILABLE



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 (Across from the White Rock Spillway)  
[www.whiterockselfstorage.com](http://www.whiterockselfstorage.com)

**CALL TODAY TO RESERVE YOUR UNIT!**

# ANNUAL WHITE ROCK EAST GARDEN TOUR

## SUNDAY, MAY 15TH 10 AM - 5 PM

**Tickets - \$15 available online at [www.whiterockgardentour.org](http://www.whiterockgardentour.org) or purchase with credit card at the tour**



### WHITE ROCK EAST

# Garden Tour

### + ARTISANS

Every year Forest Hills, Little Forest Hills and Casa Linda Estates partner to showcase nine beautiful gardens, three from each neighborhood. An important fundraiser for the FHNA, it's a don't-miss event for gardening enthusiasts and anyone interested in outdoor living designs. In addition, local artists will display/sell their work in each of the gardens and there will be a large plant sale open to the public.

As always this is a come rain or shine event, so dress for the weather and come on out. Tickets may be purchased with a credit card. Online pre-tour purchases are recommended. A map of the gardens' locations will be emailed to you the day before the tour.

#### **PLEASE CONSIDER on the day of the Tour:**

If you live within a block or two of the gardens, it would be best to make sure your cars are parked in your driveway and be careful out on the streets of Forest Hills (joggers/bikers/children/pets) as we will have many visitors on this day.

Here is a preview of the gardens you'll get to visit in Forest Hills. Two of them are also Yard of the Month winners.

Again this year, our historic Warren Ferris Cemetery is included in the tour as an additional stop. This lovely space will have volunteers on hand to lead you through the "water free garden". **To volunteer, please contact Julie at (213) 700-7481 or email [julie@julieannfineman.com](mailto:julie@julieannfineman.com).** The area is being restored with native plants to benefit local and migratory wildlife. Volunteers keep it maintained.

#### **8517 SAN FERNANDO WAY**

**SUE BENNER & CRAIG JETT**

**WILL BE YARD OF THE MONTH IN MAY**

This backyard is an artist's evolving creation. What began as a garden to nurture her children's love of the outdoors with a studio space for this working mom, has become a refuge to Sue Benner and an inspiration for her needlework designs. Her studio looks out across a semi-wild landscape of swooping beds. Winding rock pathways beckon a stroll through blooming native perennials. A lovely screened in porch is decked out in a lovely combination of finishes. And a look into Sue's studio reveals world class creations in the making. A visit to this backyard is truly a feast for the eyes and food for the creative soul.





**MARCH 2022**

8255 SANTA CLARA DRIVE

NICOLE &amp; BRANDON ROSS

The graceful grove of cedar elms stood tall against the wrecking ball when the Rosses built their dream home in Forest Hills. It nestles into the Cedar Elm tree canopy “blending in with nature”. They have transformed this long-neglected property into a modern Forest Hills jewel.

The contemporary landscape is big on style: A Blue Tongue Agave in a distressed metal planter, anchors the walkway. Feathery Mulley grasses soften the zigzagging approach while cascading Rosemary-filled containers shield the yard from the stark black driveway.

Nicole’s “Texas Heat Lovers”, spring blooming Desert Willows, red Salvias, purple Vitex and orange Coral Vine provide pops of color and attract pollinators and wildlife. “I love sitting out here in the evenings watching the owls and hawks, red buntings, hummingbirds...” she says. Although many plants go dormant in winter, the Palmettos, Yuccas and Rosemary continue to thrive seeming impervious to hard freezes.



In the Ross’ backyard, multiple seating and lounging options grace the swimming pool area. A stretch of lovely lawn and trees border one side of the pool. On the other, a fabulous Cabana houses a bar/grill, an outdoor living room with fireplace & big screen tv and bath. It can easily accommodate a party of 40, or 150 when they open the sliding glass doors on the back and front of the house.

**APRIL 2022**

1414 SAN RAFAEL

JOHN SPIEKER

When John Spieker bought the little ranch house the yard was “scraggly”, but its trees were breathtaking. When the house was renovated in 2019, a woodland garden was designed to complement the new home’s contemporary style. “The trees really are the backbone of this yard,” John explains. His favorites include two craggy Cedar Elms, and a luscious Eastern Juniper in the backyard. In the front yard, Japanese Maples, killed by last years’ winter storm, were replaced with more tolerant Bur Oaks.



The backyard nature-lovers garden is filled with an array of plant species that thrive with low maintenance. The xeriscaped beds by the driveway, the reclaimed cement blocks used in the walkways, the drip irrigation beds, all reflect a deep respect for our environment, as do the recycled water cistern and limited grassy areas. The back porch covered in Oklahoma flagstone provides a perfect perch for enjoying the natural-looking landscape. A casual fire pit area and raised planters for John’s herb garden complete the easy living feel of the porch.

Walk down into the garden for a closer look at some of John’s favorite shade-loving plants and take a peek into his woodworking shop at the end of the yard.

Each year the landscape is reviewed and renewed with expert advice. Recent additions include the Beauty Berry bushes and Ginkgo tree along the sidewalk. There’s always something to enjoy in this carefully planned, but very natural feeling garden space. It is truly one of our woodland jewels.



# SPRING CLEANING

By Daniel Ortman

In early March FRI held its 10th Annual Operation Beautification event.

Nearly 500 volunteers and residents (200 from Litter-cleanup and 295 from Trash Off) came out on a rainy morning to support the Ferguson Road Initiative Operation Beautification Litter Cleanup and City of Dallas's Trash Off event. Thank you to all who participated in picking up litter and bringing bulk items, electronics, and hazardous materials to be properly disposed of.



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

## INVASIVE POISON HEMLOCK MAY BE COMING TO A PARK OR YARD NEAR YOU



Poison hemlock, an invasive species, is a widespread toxic biennial plant in the Carrot Family often found in open sunny areas, fields, vacant lots, and on roadsides. Hemlock, which resembles Queen Anne's Lace, is spreading quickly from rural areas to populated areas and could already be in your gardens.

Poison hemlock has a musty, unpleasant odor associated with alkaloids. It grows two to ten feet tall, and all parts of the plant are toxic. Eating even a small amount of any part of this plant can kill people, wildlife, livestock and pets and there is no antidote. Eating the plant is the main danger, but it is also toxic to the skin and respiratory system.

The stems are ribbed and hollow with purplish streaks or splotches. Poison hemlock reproduces by seeds that fall near the plant and disperse via fur, birds, water, and, to a limited extent, wind. When hemlock flowers, each individual plant can produce over 30,000 seeds.

IF you discover it in your garden, be sure you are wearing protective gear such as gloves, goggles, long sleeves and pants before working to control it.





# SANGER PREPARATORY STALLION CORNER



The news just keeps getting better and better! At the time of writing this update, both the Elementary and the four Middle school robotic teams had won at the State competition held March 5th and were headed to Nationals in Iowa the weekend of April 1st. They have also secured a spot at the VEX Robotics World Championship May 3-12th at the Dallas Convention Center. Sanger students attended World Competition last year virtually. Keep your fingers crossed and stay tuned for our next July/August newsletter to learn of the final outcome of not just Nationals, but the World Competition and their final performance. Good luck Stallions!

Our two Sanger Dallas District Spelling Bee champs did not place high enough at the County competition to continue to State, but we wish them very well. Good job and good luck next year Anthony Stanley in Woodrow Wilson's International Baccalaureate program!

If you're interested in donating to any of the lockers, volunteering or supporting the programs at our wonderful neighborhood school please contact Mrs. Cerrillo at [cacerrillo@dallasisd.org](mailto:cacerrillo@dallasisd.org) or 972-749-7606. Interested in being a school sponsor? Contact Mina Shamsa, PTA Fundraising chair at [minaashamsa@gmail.com](mailto:minaashamsa@gmail.com) or 469-569-9269 for more information about sponsorship levels.

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## WARREN FERRIS CEMETERY ON THE MAY 15TH WHITE ROCK EAST GARDEN TOUR



The boulder water fountain for wildlife and boulder benches and have been installed in the historic Warren Ferris Cemetery. We thank the FHNA and our neighbors for their donations to make the Friends of the Warren Ferris Cemetery wildlife sanctuary's dreams a reality. Come enjoy Forest Hills' very own neighborhood wildlife sanctuary at 8375 San Leandro at St. Francis. **To volunteer, contact Julie at (213) 700-7481 or email [julie@julieannfineman.com](mailto:julie@julieannfineman.com).**

Come and experience our first Saturday Volunteer Days! Coinciding with them, the FWFC has arranged a line-up of local leaders to identify newly emerging native plants in the sanctuary and discuss their benefits to wildlife. They will provide direction on removal of invasive species and tips on native plants that survive freezes, heat and drought for your garden. More details at [www.friendsofthewarrencemetery.org](http://www.friendsofthewarrencemetery.org).

Saturday, May 7th, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm: Dana Wilson

Experience includes work for the National Audubon Society for the opening of the Trinity River Audubon (Dallas) and Dogwood Canyon Audubon (Cedar Hill).

Saturday, June 4th, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm: Diane Sloane, CEO of Kevin Sloan Landscape Studio and colleague Matt Stubbs

Diana and Matt are award winning leaders in "rewilding" landscapes.

Saturdays July 2nd, & August 6th, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm: Carol Clark

Botany enthusiast, Texas Master Naturalist, longtime member of the Native Plant Society of Texas and a Conservation Specialist with Monarch Watch.

Don't forget to bring gardening gloves, closed toe shoes and plenty of drinking water.



# NOTES FROM THE FH CHAPTER CHATTERS BOOK CLUB

Are you always looking for the next “great book” to read? Have a look at the various recommended books listed below. The first column are books that the Forest Hills Chapter Chatters Book Club read in 2021 & 2022. Chapter Chatters meets monthly, with various members choosing the book, hosting and moderating each month. We keep the book club roster at 20 members, and currently there is a short wait list to join. If you are interested in joining, please email [theforesthillsbookclub@gmail.com](mailto:theforesthillsbookclub@gmail.com) for more information.

*The Glass Hotel*, by Emily St. John Maneld  
*The Sweet Taste of Muscadines*,  
by Pamela Terry  
*The Midnight Library*, by Matt Haig  
*What Could Be Saved*,  
by Liese O'Halloran Schwarz  
*In Five Years*, by Rebecca Serle  
*Anxious People*, by Fredrik Backman  
*Kept Animals*, by Kate Milliken  
*The Guest List*, by Lucy Foley  
*The Great Circle*, by Maggie Shipstead  
*Nothing to See Here*, by Kevin Wilson  
*The Paris Architect*, by Charles Belfoure  
*Nives*, by Sacha Naspini

This second list of books are personal favorites of our book club members and come highly recommended. Last December we held our annual Christmas party and every member was asked to bring their favorite book (wrapped) and we held a lively and slightly competitive White Elephant Book Exchange! If you are looking for a fantastic read, check out these books which are 'guaranteed' to be enjoyable! Happy page turning!

*Seven Days in June*, by Tia Williams  
*Cloud Cuckoo Land*, by Anthony Doerr  
*Apples Never Fall*, by Liane Moriarty  
*The Sparrow*, by Mary Doria Russell  
*The Paper Palace*,  
by Miranda Cowley Heller  
*Hour of the Witch*, by Chris Bohjalian  
*The Lost Man*, by Jane Harper  
*The Lincoln Library*, by Amor Towles  
*The Signature of All Things*,  
by Elizabeth Gilbert  
*Wish You Were Here*, by Jodi Picoult  
*We Were Never Here*, by Andrea Bartz  
*The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo*,  
by Taylor Jenkins Reid  
*Last Seen Alone*, by Laura Griffin



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—Wendy and Tom Rettinger, buyers,  
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—John and Lenore Gilliland, sellers,  
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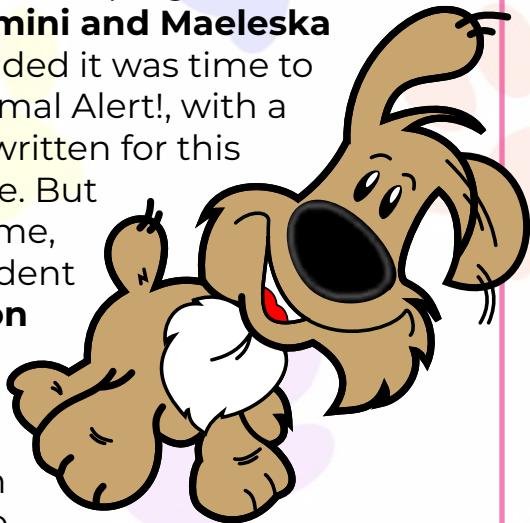
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# ANIMAL ALERT!

## FOREST HILLS & LITTLE FOREST HILLS

After 15+ years of helping lost and found pets, **Andie Comini and Maeleska Fletes** had decided it was time to close down Animal Alert!, with a notice already written for this Newsletter issue. But in the nick of time, Forest Hills resident **Christi Cameron** stepped up to take over and breathe new life, enthusiasm and energy into this important program. Three Cheers (WOOFS! MEOWS!) for Christi!



This just happened after the Spring Picnic so it will take a few weeks to mesh the old ideas and ways with the new. Please stay tuned for announcements in a few weeks! This is wonderful news for Forest Hills as we will be able to continue taking care of those in need.

In the past we have helped hundreds of lost or found pets find their way home or to a new home. Not only dogs and cats, but we've also assisted pigs, chickens, roosters, guinea pigs, and even a turtle! We were able to help get dangerous dogs removed from our neighborhoods.

With Christi now taking the lead, our good work can continue. Welcome aboard Christi!

*Andie Comini & Maeleska Fletes*

# IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR

When more of us are out walking, jogging, biking around our beautiful neighborhood. We have been asked to send out a few reminders:

- For safety, walk/jog facing oncoming traffic. This is the opposite of the recommendation for a bicyclist.
- Watch for inattentive drivers. You have the ability to see what the driver is doing such as looking in the backseat or down at their cell phone.
- Avoid staring at your cell phone.
- Do not wear earbuds or headphones so you can hear traffic. At least leave one ear uncovered, so you can enjoy your music and still hear traffic.
- At night, it's best to walk with a friend.
- Wear light colored clothing when it is dark.
- Wear reflective gear/clothing - patches or stripes.

### **When out walking with your furry buddies, please remember to:**

- Always carry poop bags AND dispose of properly. Do not just toss in someone's yard or the gutter. Picking up your dog's poop is more than just being a good, tidy neighbor - dog poop that isn't picked up can cause major health concerns to humans and pets alike. Pet waste may contain harmful organisms such as giardia, E. coli, roundworms, hookworms, and salmonella that can spread to other animals and humans or make their way into the soil and pollute water supplies.
- Check that your pet's collar is not too tight or too loose.
- Be sure your pet wears up-to-date tags with your correct contact information and has microchipped and registered.
- If you're going to be walking for more than a half hour or out in the hot weather bring plenty of water along for your dog.
- Watch out for hot pavement in the summer. Place your hand or bare foot on the pavement for 5 seconds. If it's too hot (or uncomfortable) for your skin, it's too hot for your dog's feet.
- Always ask before approaching other dogs with yours. Just because your dog is friendly doesn't mean every dog-to-dog meeting will be pleasant. There are plenty of dogs that don't do well with on a leash greeting.
- For those late-night walks, be sure your pet also has some type of reflective item on such as a collar or leash.



# HOWARD GARRETT: THE DIRT DOCTOR

On Thursday, March 3rd, 14 of us Forest Hills neighbors got to visit with Howard Garrett, “the Dirt Doctor”, at his gallery on Oram St. It was an event that was auctioned off at the **Forest Hills is Brewing Security FUNraiser** last fall. Howard started us off in his front yard telling us all about the wonderful trees he has planted. For tree lovers, this was Nirvana! We went upstairs to enjoy some wine from Stoney’s Wine Lounge and appetizers while experiencing Howard’s paintings throughout the house. He sat down with us to give some insight into organic gardening which was informative and enjoyable with a Q&A session that was very helpful! One tip given was to cover your lawn with BTI (*Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis*) for mosquito control. It’s time!



None of us wanted it to end, but we finished with a drawing for a gallon of Garrett Juice, the most helpful nutrition for your trees and plants, won by Terri Stull-Higgins, one of Howard’s great gardening books, *The Organic Manual*, won by Becky Bordelon and one of his beautiful paintings won by Wes Gilpin.

If you don’t read Howard’s organic gardening articles in the *Dallas Morning News*, check out his website [www.dirtdoctor.com](http://www.dirtdoctor.com) for any gardening info. You can also make an appointment there to see his organic paintings for sale, buy one of his many books, read articles, research gardening tips and more.

I think Howard enjoyed himself with our wonderful neighbors so I’m hoping our auction next fall will include another event with him. Stay tuned!

# FOREST HILLS

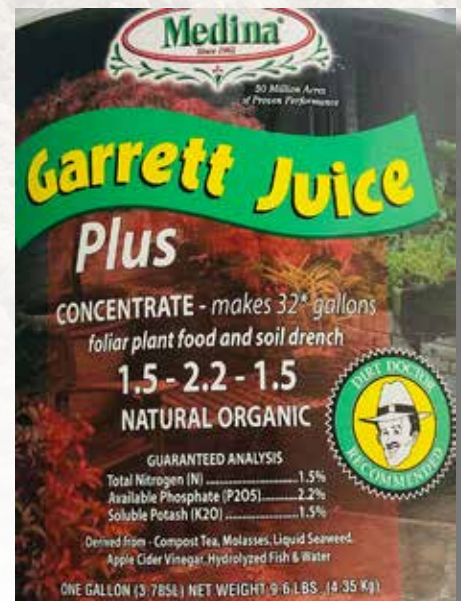
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# CALL TO FH WOOD WORKERS

Seems Forest Hills is home to some talented woodworkers! Namely, Woody Glenn and George Knight in FH and Chris Lyons on Barbaree. The question came up: "Are there others? Or anyone interested in learning more about the art of woodworking?"

**Woody Glenn** [woody.glenn@gmail.com](mailto:woody.glenn@gmail.com)

Woody Glenn works with found, reclaimed stumps and fallen trees from our own neighborhood. One of his projects was the fallen cedar elm in their backyard that was cut, carried to an East Texas sawmill where it was milled into wide boards, stored in their garage for 2 years, and (finally!) made into the queen size bed that the couple sleeps on.



**George Knight** [geodebknight@swbell.net](mailto:geodebknight@swbell.net)

Mentored by friend and neighbor Tim Cronin, George started turning wood into bowls in retirement. When a tree goes down in FH and is on the curb, one can find George checking out the pile for just the right piece of wood for some fabulous creation!

**Chris Lyons** [christo-lyons@sbcglobal.net](mailto:christo-lyons@sbcglobal.net)

Chris Lyons is a well-known artist on the White Rock Lake Artists' Studio Tour and his creative art pieces are highly sought after. Sometimes Chris works with just wood, but other times he combines sculptural materials to create a mixed media work of wood, granite and/or limestone. He is a master of many materials - wood is just one of them. Talk to him about his ideas, processes, materials and see his workspace during the October 15 & 16, 2022 Tour.



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## WELCOME NEWCOMERS



**8300 Block of Barbaree**

Zane & Amanda Marcell

**1300 Block of Highland**

Anna Cabeca

**8300 Block of Santa Clara**

Jill Farmar

*Apologies if we have overlooked anyone. Newcomers can be missed when move-in is delayed for remodeling or when a home is purchased directly from builder or previous owner. Let us know of any oversights. Also, if you have just arrived or if you have a new neighbor, please contact us with names/addresses, so we can extend a big welcome.*  
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