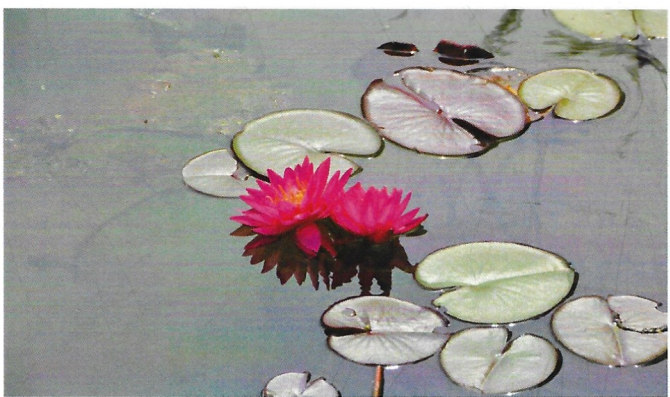




FOREST HILLS NEWS

May - June 2017
www.foresthillsdallas.org



White Rock Shore Spruce-Up
2nd Saturday each month

Newsletter articles due Friday,
June 9 for the July/August Issue

FOREST HILLS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

BULK TRASH

May

Thursday 4 - Sunday 7

Trash pick-up starts the week of Monday 8 - Friday

June

Thursday 8 - Sunday 11

Trash pick-up starts the week of Monday 12 - Friday

http://dallascityhall.com/departments/sanitation/pages/brush_and_bulk.aspx

THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Neighbors,
Now that the weather is getting warmer and the school year is almost coming to a close, many have the summer to



CHRIS MCCAULEY

look forward to and vacation plans in the works. As the summer season kicks into gear, our neighborhood becomes a bit less populated but still requires some vigilance when it comes to house and home. Forest Hills is a well-known neighborhood and very inviting. As a result, I'd like to remind everyone to have a plan to take care securing your home while you are out. Most of neighbors don't realize that one of the great benefits of our FH Security Program lets you call ahead and notify our watch patrol when you are away and they can help monitor your property when you are gone. Similarly, make sure that whomever is taking care of your house knows who you might have visit, whether it is the pool or yard service crew, and share their name and information so that potential imposters can't gain access to your home. On a different note, the weather shifts also prompt us outside to take care of our gardens. I found a few helpful tips from our close neighbor, the Dallas Arboretum, that I thought you might enjoy. They offered the guidance below to support your planting and upkeep efforts to keep things in bloom and healthy in the summer months:

Garden Tips for JUNE

- Plant summer annuals and tropicals. Water them in after planting and keep them watered regularly during the summer heat
- Begin cutting back any overgrown perennials and annuals to keep growth compact.
- Mow lawns once per week to maintain good healthy growth and reduce any unnecessary wear and tear on lawn equipment
- Fertilize lawns and gardens with a high nitrogen fertilizer, following recommended application rates.

Garden Tips for JULY

- Plant tomatoes now for a fall harvest
- Begin trimming spent flower stalks on perennials
- Cut back overgrown annuals (such as impatiens and coleus) and perennials (such as asters and salvia) to prevent plants from falling over
- Trim roses back now by one-third to one-half to rejuvenate them for the fall season.
- Shape mature or overgrown climbing roses now without damaging next year's bloom potential.
- Keep plants well-watered in the summer heat
- Mow lawns once per week to maintain healthy growth and reduce wear and tear on lawn equipment
- Fertilize lawns and gardens with a high nitrogen fertilizer, following recommended application rates

Lastly, on the neighborhood front, you've likely noticed there are a lot of developments underway in our area. The build out of Chick-fil-A and Carmel Carwash on Garland road are in full swing, our newest addition of Smoky Rose is open and has a great patio to enjoy. Many other activities are in the works regarding roads etc. so stay tuned to our Fall newsletters and neighborhood meetings where we will update you on some of the latest developments for our neighborhood.

Thanks. Chris

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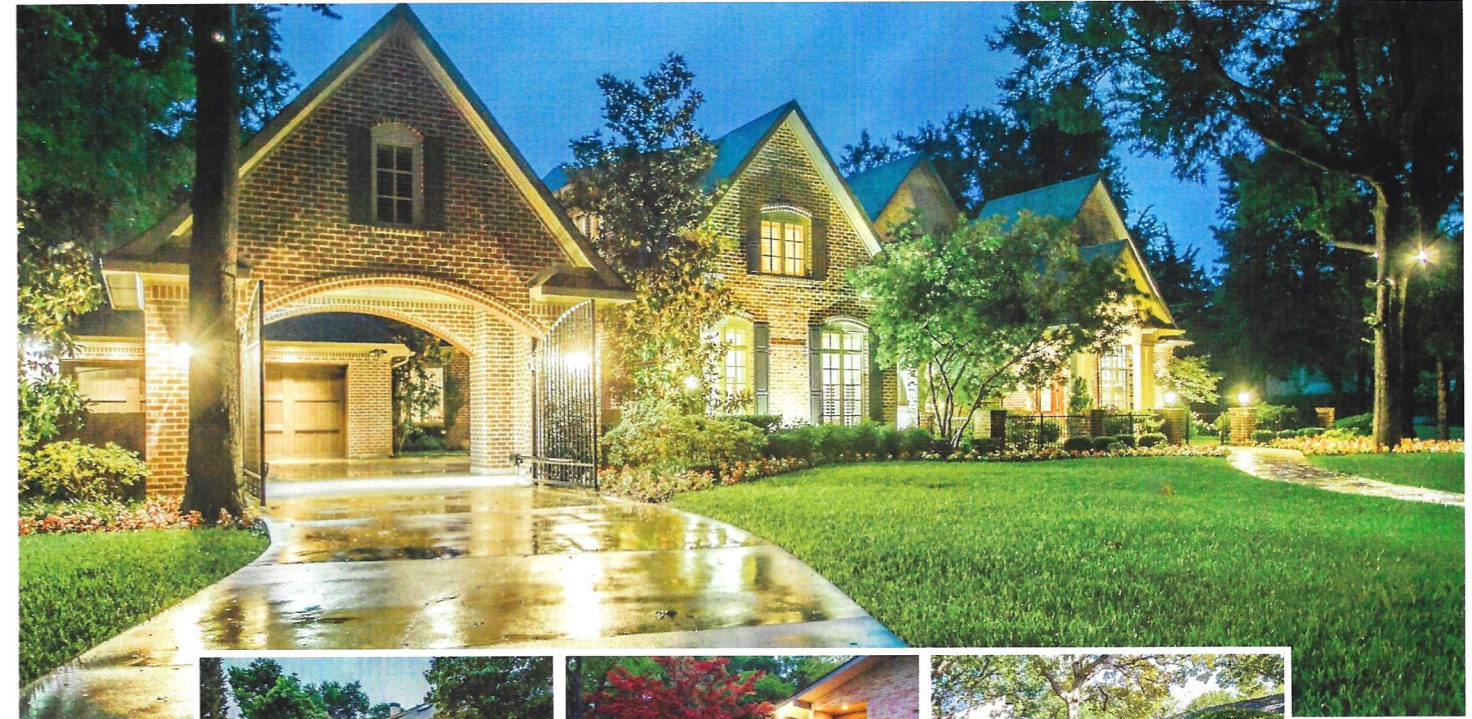
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Ask Security Chick:

Dear Forest Hills Neighbors,

After the shooting of 5 officers last July, 30 officers retired from the Dallas Police Department. Since then 450 left. Now they face the retirement fiasco. Depending on the outcome of this situation the officers in their early 50's could take a significant cut in pay. Worse still that would also include a significant cut in their pension. If this happens another 450 will consider leaving the force.

We are so fortunate to have our Forest Hills Neighborhood Patrol with Dallas Police Officers who have known us, our children, our homes and cars all these years and keep us safe. They are true Peace Officers, consider us their "Peeps" and care about us and our safety. Please



contribute to the Security Program. Now more than ever we need to KEEP this going.

Forest Hills is also having a serious problem with neighbors and non-neighbors flying through stop signs. This is dangerous for everyone walking, walking their dogs, riding their bikes and other cars. There have been several near misses. Frightening.

You know who you are. Some of your neighbors know who you are. Leave a little earlier and think about how an accident like this waiting to happen can affect your life and the lives of others. Please, don't speed through Forest Hills and come to a complete stop at the stop signs.

Thank you, Security Chick

Forest Hills Security Program (FHSP)

A resident funded program hiring off duty Dallas police officers to patrol Forest Hills. Providing security and education supporting personal safety and crime prevention.

More Participants = More Patrols = Less Crime

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Replacing Our Forest Hills Trees

Sadly, often during the process of building a new home in our neighborhood, a tree may die. Reputable builders will do all they can to protect the tree from heavy equipment and stress but it is not always enough.

Michael and Shanel Ferguson of 8417 Santa Clara were devastated when a large oak tree in their front yard died this past year shortly after they moved in. Kudos to them from their Forest Hills neighbors for replacing that tree with three large caliper oak trees. It takes a long time to reach the heights of some of the lovely tall trees in our neighborhood. So replanting is so important. Please consider planting a new tree or two on your property.

Thanks Michael and Shanel for keeping the "forest" in Forest Hills!



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The Dog Days of Summer!

By East Dallas Veterinary Clinic

The Dog Days of Summer are here and as residents of Texas, we know how hot it can get and how to adjust, but our pets aren't always able to do so without our help. Below are some ways we can help our furry friends deal with the climbing temperatures.

- When outside, always ensure that your pets have adequate shade and a supply of fresh cool water.
- Never leave your pets in the car unattended as temperatures in a parked car can climb 40 degrees Fahrenheit in roughly an hour even on a cool day. That means, if it's 72 degrees outside, temperatures in a car can reach up to 112 degrees. Most of the temperature increases in a car start within 30 minutes. Even if your car is in the shade, your pets are susceptible to heatstroke. So, when in doubt, leave your pets at home!
- Keeping your pet healthy in the summer is important. But avoid taking walks during the hottest parts of the day. This is when concrete sidewalks become warmest and can burn your pets' feet.
- Keeping your pet free of parasites is always a year round job! So continue the proper flea and heartworm preventions even in the hottest of months.
- If you have a pet with longer hair, it might be a good idea to have them groomed before the heat arrives. This way, they have less hair causing more body heat. However, be sure to not clip hair too short as pets can sunburn just as humans!
- Summer is a busy time for home repairs, yard work, pool cleaning, etc. so always be sure that your yards are properly secured so that your pets are not able to escape.
- And of course, be sure each pet is wearing identification tags AND is microchipped.
- The best rule of thumb for enjoying your summer with pets is to remember that if it's hot outside for you, it's hot outside for them. Make sure they always have a cool place to relax in the Dog Days of Summer and you too!

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Annual White Rock Garden Tour

On Sunday, May 21st Forest Hills will be participating in the annual White Rock East Garden Tour. Forest Hills, Little Forest Hills and Casa Linda Estates partner to showcase nine beautiful gardens. Three gardens from each neighborhood are selected to be on the tour – each with its own unique style and beauty.

The garden tour will feature local artists in each of the gardens on the tour and there is a big plant sale in Casa Linda Park.

Tickets are available at www.whiterockgardentour.org or may be purchased at the gardens or plant sale.

Garden tour 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Plant sale 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Congratulations to the Forest Hills gardens on the tour this year!

Rob & Amy Coke - 8454 Forest Hills Blvd
 Matt Hafner & Mallory Becker - 8523 San Benito Way
 Ron Balentine & Julie Dunn - 8247 San Fernando



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Welcome Newcomers!

If you have just arrived or if you have a new neighbor, let us know! For oversights, please contact nicolembosworth@gmail.com with names /addresses so we can give our new neighbors a Woodsy Welcome and a Guide to Forest Hills!

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.

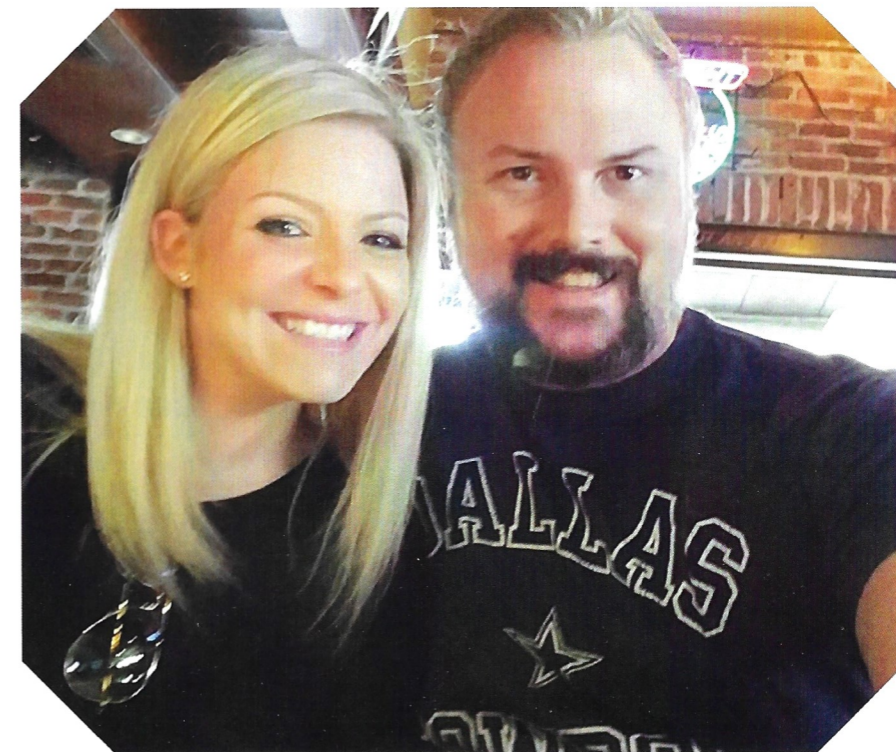
**8500 Block San Leandro
Chris and July Crockett**

Spotlight On:

The Noppinger Family, Our New Neighbors on San Leandro!

By: Nicole Bosworth

Heidi and Mike Noppinger, and their four-legged daughter, Punkin (a ten year old rescue) recently moved to Forest Hills from the Lakewood area in Dallas. While Mike is originally from Florida, and Heidi California, both moved to Texas as children and attended high school and college in Texas. Mike works as a mortgage loan originator, and Heidi is in accounting for a private equity firm. They recently celebrated their first wedding anniversary.



Heidi and Mike were looking for a welcoming neighborhood in East Dallas, and they chose Forest Hills due to its' quietness, wide streets, non-city feel, and proximity to White Rock Lake. They are excited to grow their family in their new home, meet new neighbors, and get involved in neighborhood activities.

In their spare time, Mike and Heidi enjoy cooking at home (while Punkin patiently watches), cheering for the Texas Tech Red Raiders and Dallas Cowboys, and spending time with family and friends. They enjoy travelling together and exploring new cities, gardening, and barbecuing as often as possible.

Please Welcome the Noppinger Family!

YARD OF THE MONTH

Sponsored by **NORTH HAVEN Gardens**



March

Michael & Shanel Ferguson
8417 Santa Clara

Walk up to the sound of a gurgling fountain that punctuates the entrance to this Spanish style home on Santa Clara. The sweeping planting beds are filled with colorful annuals, grasses, Italian cypress and large boulders that accentuate the Spanish architecture.



April

Rob & Amy Coke
8454 Forest Hills Blvd.

This beautiful contemporary home with raised steel planting beds (that reinforce the contemporary architecture of the home) feature Japanese maples, boxwoods, white azaleas, white roses and petunias. The family friendly yard has been designed for relaxation with colorful seating...and for fun with a tree swing! The gardens of this home will be featured on the White Rock East Garden Tour this year -- Sunday, May 21 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Volunteers Needed

Where: Alex Sanger Elementary School
What: To help tutor reading for 3rd and 4th grade students

These are students from our Forest Hills neighborhood who simply need a little extra focus on their reading skills.

New Horizons of North Texas heads this faith-based program Monday - Thursday from 3 - 5 PM. There are only two schools in the Dallas area fortunate enough to have their help. They have their own Director and lead teachers so their is a lot of guidance and instruction for the new tutors. New Horizons is sponsored by the White Rock United Methodist Church.

We need more volunteers! Grandparents are welcome! What better investment of time can we make than in the lives of our neighborhood children - helping them develop a love for reading, building their self esteem, and showing them that their neighborhood is here to support them.

Please come visit and observe a session to learn more. Or contact Seth Henderson, Director of New Horizons of North Texas @ seth@newhorizonsoftx.org or (972) 207-4478.

You may also contact Neil Mosley, Director of Community Engagement at White Rock United Methodist Church @ mosley@wrumc.org.

Or call me, Marvel Kiewit (a volunteer two days a week) @ (214) 327-8947 or (214) 212-6166.

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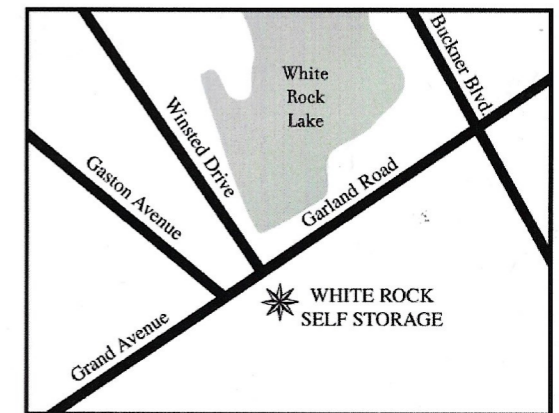
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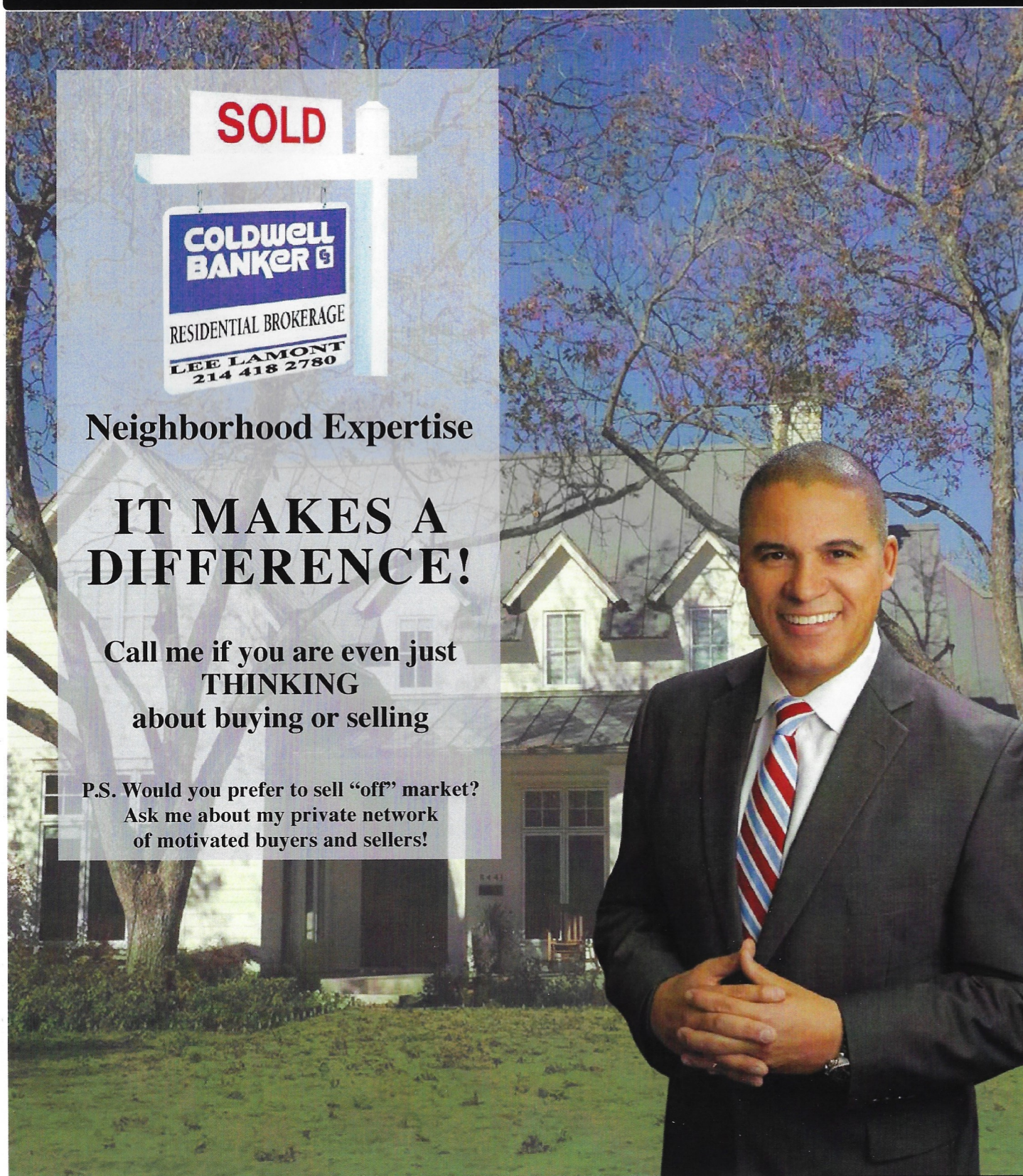
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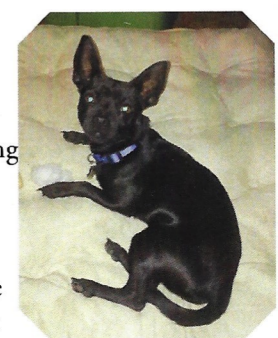
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Catch that Chicken! Register your Dog! Animal Alert!

Interview with an Animal Alert Founder

By Robinson Tryon of LFH

It sometimes seems like half of the posts on NextDoor are about missing dogs, chickens or pigs running free. Y'all remember Hogdini, the pig with Houdini-level escape skills? Some Pig, I'd say!
As much fun as it would be to have a few cute pot-bellied pigs roaming around Little Forest Hills, serving as ambassadors (am-bacon-adores?) to all those who visit, the reality is that loose animals should get home to their owners as quickly and safely as possible.
A couple of weeks ago I had a great idea: What if we had a registry of all the pets & livestock in the neighborhood? All the information would be confidential, and a couple of 'Critter Captains' could serve as coordinators to help people identify found animals and search for missing ones. Brilliant! It turns out that just such an organization *already exists*! It's called "Animal Alert," it deals with animals in both Little and Big Forest Hills, and is led by Maeleska Fletes.



Max, found running loose in LFH

WANT TO HELP?

Please let us know if you'd like to help with Animal Alert. We need team members who can respond to lost & found animal inquiries, help get the neighborhood pets registered (once we have that system up and running again), and more!
Please contact Maeleska at 214-930-5901 or email <info@lfhanimalalert.org>.

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT ANIMAL ALERT?

I had an opportunity to talk with Maeleska this week and learn a bit more about the organization.

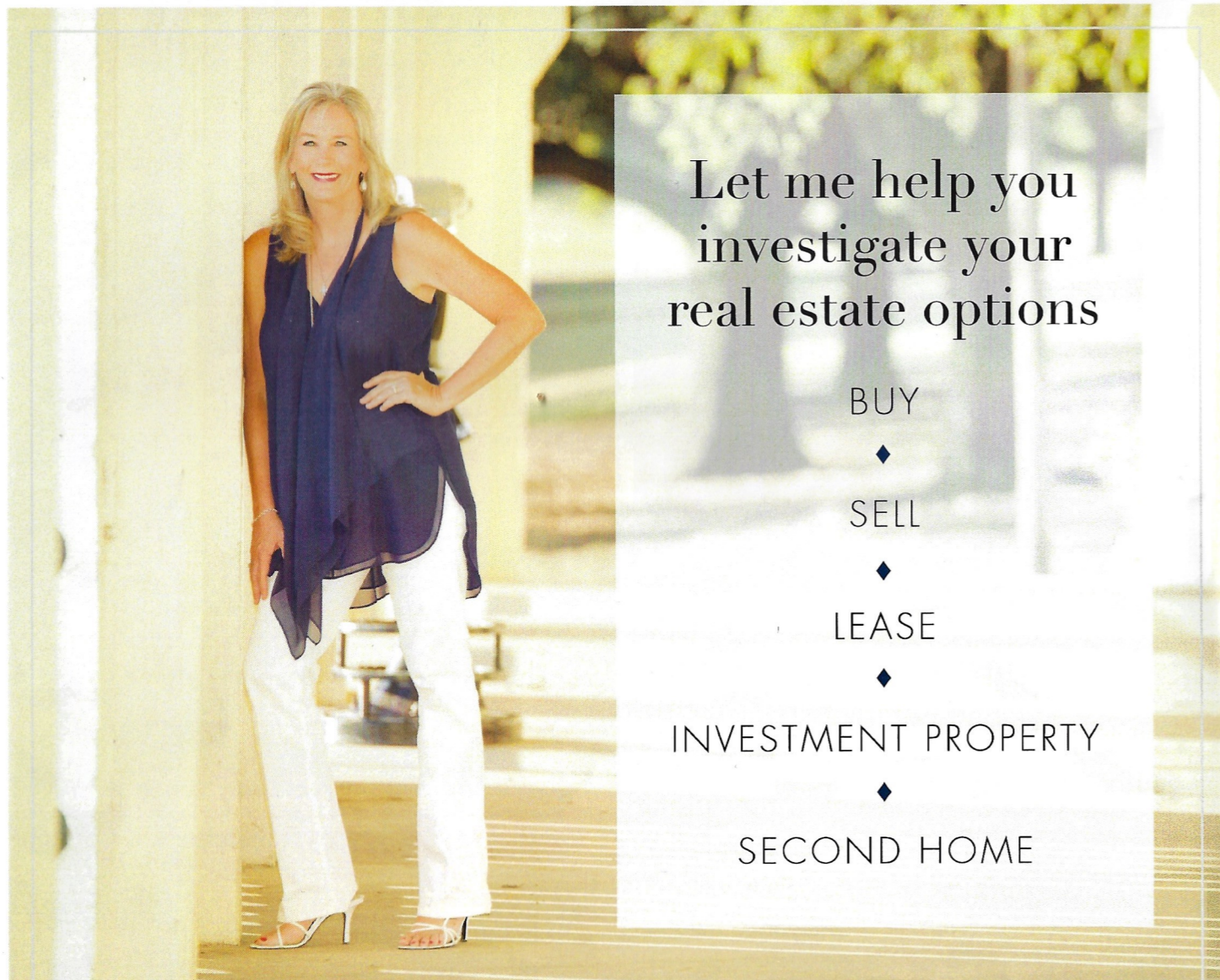
Read the Interview.....

R: About how fast do you get back to people who've contacted you?
Maeleska: Yes texting is fine. The [AA] phone is very low quality and picture[s] are not good. I do let them text my personal phone if they are unable to email a picture to our email address.
R: May people register livestock? (there are a fair number of pigs, chickens, rabbits, etc.. around here, and they seem to get loose at times!)
M: Yes and no. We [no] longer register pets. I had hoped to do online registration and even had a volunteer to do it but it never happened. At one time I was passing the control of AA to another neighbor and it did not work out...I just try to keep up with every-one via email now.
R: Is there a team of people monitoring the info@lfhanimalalert.com email address?
M: It is just me. I constantly am asking for volunteers but I believe since I no longer live in LFH I miss opportunities to get help. So any help is GREATLY appreciated.
R: How many inquiries do you get a day?
M: Some days none. Some days up to about 4. It seems it's feast or famine.

R: About how fast do you get back to people who've contacted you?
M: I try to get back to folks immediately due to the fact that animals usually don't hang around if they are loose. Sometimes I am unable to due to work or other commitments.
R: How much would it speed up the process to have a few more volunteers on board?
M: Yes it would speed up if I had help.
R: How many pets have you helped get reunited w/their owners?
M: Hundreds possibly thousands.
R: How long have you been doing this?
M: I started LFHAA in 2008.
R: Any amusing stories about lost animals, etc...?
M: There are several amusing stories but the re-homing a chicken was probably the best. A LFH resident had a rooster show up in their yard. There was so many funny comments like "dinner is served". I was able to find a home for him in the country and he was not dinner!
R: What happens if you can't identify an owner for an animal?
M: It happens every so often. If that is the case I do my best to get them into a foster and with a rescue group once it is decided that there is no owner. I just had a wonderful little fellow that no one claimed and I took him here at my house. He finally got adopted to a wonderful family and has a wonderful young girl of his own.
R: What's the best way for people to get in touch with you if they'd like to volunteer?
M: They can call the Animal Alert number 214-930-5901 or email info@lfhanimalalert.org

Max and his new owner





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Belle Nora



Vicki White, Realtor © GRI, CLHMS

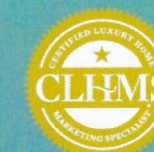
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