

FOREST HILLS



Forest Hills Association
2000 calendar of events

FEB 24 7:30pm

Forest Hills Semi-Annual
General Meeting
Alex Sanger School Auditorium
Corner of St. Francis and
San Leandro Drive
Guest Speaker: Ron Carpenter of the
Dallas Police Department

MARCH 11-APRIL 17

Dallas Blooms
"America the Beautiful"
The Dallas Arboretum

MAR 11, APR 8, MAY 13 8am

2nd Saturday
Shoreline Spruce-Ups
Bathouse Cultural Center
White Rock Lake

continued on page 3

Dear Neighbors, Welcome to the new millennium! What a great time to be living in Forest Hills. As all of us start the New Year, I'm sure we are busy implementing our "resolutions" to make changes and improvements in our daily lives. On behalf of your Board of Directors of our Forest Hills community, I would like to ask each of you to make one more resolution - to support your Forest Hills Homeowners Association (FHA).

The FHA needs your personal and financial involvement in order to continue making Forest Hills a vital and dynamic neighborhood by making needed upgrades and improvements to our community. The small group of people (under fifty) who serve on the Board and its committees work very hard as volunteers to help make our neighborhood a safer, friendlier and more beautiful place to live.

In this newsletter we have listed the projects that are most important to you as residents of Forest Hills. We also invite you to attend the Semi-Annual Forest Hills homeowners Association meeting on February 24 at 7:00 P.M. in the Sanger School Auditorium. Speaking at this meeting will be Ron Carpenter of the Dallas Police Force. He will discuss ways to make our community a "safer place to live". You will also have the opportunity to hear about all the exciting activities and projects that your Board of Directors are planning and implementing.

As president of your Association, I am making a plea to all of you homeowners and residents of Forest Hills to "Get Involved in the Association". We need your ideas, opinions and physical participation in planning and completing the many activities and proposed projects of this new year: the Planned Development District, the Arboretum Expansion, the Ferguson Road Initiative, the Tree Program, Newcomer activities, seasonal celebrations, entrance-way signs, street lighting, irrigation of medians, Newsletter articles and ads, Sanger School support, fundraisers, Block Captains, Neighborhood Directory and more. Updates of these activities are included in this newsletter. See the back page for active Board Members who would love to hear from YOU.

My second plea is to "Pay Your Dues" and financially support the activities and projects of your community. Presently, there are only 148 homes out of 586 that have paid their \$25 dues. Your Association has spent and will continue to invest thousands of dollars just to support the beautification projects like tree pruning, planting and removal. Keeping the forest in Forest Hills benefits ALL RESIDENTS in our neighborhood.

continued on page 3

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HARRY H. MORGAN

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HARRY H. MORGAN 972-380-7707



Forest Hills Association
2000 calendar of events
continued from front cover

MAR 12 11am-1pm

Senior Citizen's Luncheon
Hostess: Neoma Twining
8130 San Benito Way
Call 214-320-0229 for info

MAR 14 7:30pm

FHA Board Meeting
All residents welcome
Home of Liza Orchard
8446 San Benito Way

APR 8

Grand Opening
East Dallas YMCA
Healthy Kid's Day
7305 Gaston Ave., 214-824-8139

APR 11 7:30pm

FHA Board Meeting
Lakewood Country Club, 214-821-1491
All residents welcome

MAR 15 4-6pm

FHA Easter Egg Hunt
Front Lawns of the
Whorton's & Walton's
8367 & 8379 Santa Clara Drive

APR 21-23

Dallas Arboretum
"Egg-stravaganza"
April 21: Children's Concert
April 22: Easter Parade

MAY 6

White Rock N' Roll Marathon
Benefiting "For the Love of the Lake"
To run or volunteer call 972-622-SAVE

MAY 9 7:30pm

FHA Board Meeting
Home of Peter Hajeck
8303 San Fernando Way
All residents welcome

MAY 21 5-7pm

Neighborhood
Block Party
8246 & 8446 San Benito Way
Times, places, and dates are subject to change. For more information, call Amy at 319-9294 or Linda at 324-1260.

You get so much for your \$25 - and we need your financial support. In the next newsletter, I would like to be able to report a big increase in dues paying members. Please send your check to the FHA c/o Bob Jones, Treasurer, 1234 San Rafael Drive, Dallas, 75218.

In closing, let me restate the obvious - Forest Hills is an oasis in this fast growing Metroplex in which we live and work. So please make one more resolution for the New Year - Get involved with the FHA. We need your support. You will be glad you did - and so will the neighborhood.

See you on February 24 at Sanger, John Mitchell, President

Beep! Beep! Traffic Update

OK, I admit it. The City of Dallas is a formidable bureaucracy. As mentioned in the last newsletter, FHA is working with the City on several traffic issues: 1) through-traffic on St. Francis, 2) through-traffic on San Rafael, and 3) pedestrian crossings for Garland Road. At this time, there is not much progress, but we do have a better understanding of the problems. Thanks to everyone who called with comments and suggestions.

There is hope for St. Francis. We have lobbied hard with the Arboretum and there will not be a new entrance directly across from St. Francis. They have changed their design solely to accommodate us. The design at this time (not quite final) is an entry 250' from St. Francis toward Whittier. It would only be used for deliveries and as entry or exit on peak days, and it will only be accessible from the southbound lanes of Garland Road. A pedestrian gate and sidewalk are planned to connect the new entrance to the bike path on the lake. The original Arboretum entrance at Whittier will remain and be somewhat expanded to allow more volume and left-turn exits. The Arboretum hopes these improvements will alleviate many of the traffic problems. Plus, they plan to aggressively encourage satellite parking. The Arboretum is also working with us to create reasonable solutions for the over-flow parking in our neighborhood. There is preliminary talk of resident parking permits, and an intimidating "OK to Tow" sticker for the people who park illegally. Obviously, we need stricter enforcement of the parking offenders.

In regard to the commuting traffic that detours from Highland Road onto San Rafael, this is difficult. We cannot remove the speed bumps from Highland without a petition of agreement from the Highland residents. And, stop signs and one-way systems to discourage through-traffic violate several city policies. The solution of speed bumps on San Rafael will require a petition with 2/3rds agreement of San Rafael residents, a traffic count of 500 cars in 24 hours, and speeds greater than 35 mph. To make matters worse, more traffic is on its way. The new David Weekly development along Highland is about to finish, and another one is in development on the other side of the tracks.

Finally, concerning safer pedestrian and bicycle access across Garland Road at San Rafael, after speaking with City Traffic, City Sidewalks, City Bicycle paths, White Rock Park and Dallas Water, it seems this issue does not fit under anyone's actual jurisdiction. Generally, a sidewalk is approved and attached to a bond issue, then passed by voters - a process taking 5-10 years. It seems our best solution may be to design and build a short stretch of sidewalk without city funding (not significant anyway). The cost would probably be \$10-20,000, which could possibly be shared with the "Highland on the Creek" development. At this time, City Sidewalks has promised to advise us on design and funding possibilities.

For traffic or city concerns, please contact Craig Knutson at 214-324-3195 or knutsonc@flash.net.

What We've Heard from the Hills

Last November, Randall Duke, our Chairman of Communications, issued a Directory update requesting comments and input from our Forest Hill residents. So far, we have received 309. And we look forward to the 277 yet to come. So please complete and mail/fax/e-mail your information before the end of February.

The responses were extremely helpful. Here is what has been expressed. The number in parenthesis indicates the amount of similar comments.

More compost space for leaves.

Safe pedestrian/bicycle access to the lake from St. Francis. Sidewalk from the Arboretum to E. Lawther.

Remove speed bumps on Highland Rd. (because of increased traffic on San Raphael).

Establish a "Welcome Committee" for each block or street, possibly initiated by Block Captains.

Do NOT sell this information. (3)

Thanks for helping/great job/time/hard work/etc... (19)

Thanks to Delores Cullivan and FHA Garden Club and Beautification for the triangular boulevard at San Pedro and Santa Clara. (2)

We will try to be more active in the future. (5)

What are the dues and where do we send them? (4)

Stop sign in the San Raphael median where Highland Rd. spills out into San Rafael.

Speed bumps and additional lighting in the alleys.

Forest Hills Blvd: stop moving the median and grow woods-like shrubs.

Give up the Easter Egg Hunt.

We can give more money.

Parkway benches.

Fourth of July parade—so very special—thanks for the community spirit.

Protect our trees in our surrounding urban areas.

When does the FHA Garden Club meet? (see Garden Club article, pg. 13)

When do any of the committees meet? (contact each committee chairperson directly to find out)

Would love to see another "Oasis" at St. Francis/San Pedro/San Benito Way as has been maintained at Santa Clara/Whittier/and San Pedro, (the "Triangle"). (3)

We have been in Forest Hills for 42 years and love it.

Sidewalk on San Raphael for safer access to Lake.

Major cleanup in alley facing RR#—major dump spot. (2)

Produce a variety show using FHA talent to raise money.

Thank you Garden Club. (3)

Thanks for the Christmas Tree at Forest Hills and Breezewood. (5)

This took longer than 10 seconds. (3)

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Letter to the Editor: Stop the Billboards!

Someone at last month's FHA monthly meeting suggested we erect billboards at each entrance to Forest Hills to raise money for the neighborhood (less than 20% of us are paying our \$25 annual FHA dues so they are looking for alternate funding sources). A committee has been formed to look into the possibilities. I believe we should stand against such nonsense. Please come to the next FHA meeting and help STOP THE BILLBOARDS!

Everyone in Forest Hills should also be very concerned about major changes going on at the Arboretum. There are some very good and very bad ideas floating around that will have a dramatic effect on our neighborhood, (just ask someone who has been to one of the planning meetings). The Arboretum is going to change and each of us could and should have input to those changes. We need your input.

Just kidding about the billboards, but everyone is welcome to the next FHA meeting, (2nd Tuesday each month at 7:30PM - call for location). I wish I was kidding about the dismal dues participation. Robert Shive

Projects for Forest Hills Association 2000

Project	Estimated Cost	Projected Completion
Jogging Track for Sanger Elementary	co-pay	2000
Tree Planting & Irrigation (\$500 raised at the auction)	\$20,000	2000
FHA Monuments (3 monuments)	\$7500 each	2000
Toddler Playground (Call Kalena Cook at 214-319-8936 to volunteer)	\$30,000	2001
San Raphael Pedestrian access to White Rock Lake (possibly split cost w/ Highland on the Creek)	\$15,000	2001
Additional lighting on FH streets?	NA	
Arboretum Expansion	Priceless	(hoo-ray FHA volunteers)



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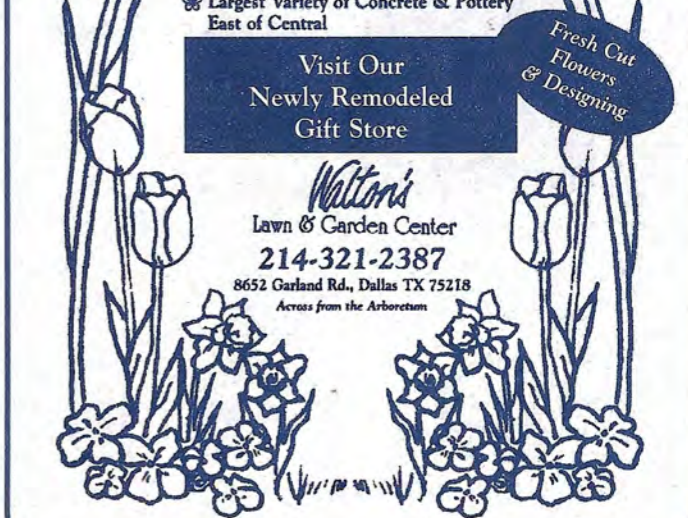
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Arboretum Update

A committee recently met to discuss Forest Hills concerns regarding a new entrance/exit for the new educational pavilion at the Arboretum. Committee members are: Judi Boyles, Craig Knutson, Tim Keith, Chuck and Ann Walton, Rick Bigsby, Cynthia and John Whorton, and Delores Cullivan. The concerns and ideas include:

- ✓ A new entrance that will not line up with St. Francis and Garland Road and how often this new entrance would be open.
- ✓ Better control of traffic on St. Francis and Garland Road during peak events.
- ✓ Increased use of satellite parking to decrease the number of cars in our neighborhood.
- ✓ The creation of a super incentive by the Arboretum to encourage the use of satellite parking for all peak events to decrease traffic.
- ✓ Information on the Arboretum's business plan and projected increase in business over the next ten years.
- ✓ Pedestrian access from Forest Hills to the Arboretum.
- ✓ Sidewalks on Garland Road uniting the lake and Arboretum.
- ✓ Additional police to patrol during peak events.
- ✓ Restriction of shuttle buses in Forest Hills.
- ✓ A comprehensive look at the possibility of incorporating the current staff entrance and service road into use as a second entrance or exit, instead of

creating a new one. This would possibly involve a zoning change.

The committee will meet with the President of the Arboretum soon to discuss these issues and secure some answers. Meanwhile the proposed secondary entrance on Lawther Drive has been opposed by the Dallas Planning Commission and will not be pursued at this time.

This committee will also meet with *Andropogon Associates* to discuss the future ten year development of the Arboretum. Our ideas here include:

- ✓ More gardens, less entertainment.
- ✓ Pedestrian entrance on the lakeside, close to Winfrey Point.
- ✓ A garden maze.
- ✓ More water features.
- ✓ Much more satellite parking and some additional on-site parking.
- ✓ Continued use of a super-incentive to use satellite parking for peak attendance events.

Please contact a committee member if you have concerns and would like to get involved.

Delores Cullivan





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Lieu Van Tran AKA Bicycle Man

In the hundreds of times I've passed this curious man donned with hardhat, reflector vest and protector lenses on his faded blue high-mileage 10-speed saddled with aluminum cans, I've always wondered where he gets such a cheerful demeanor. Whether he's negotiating the unrelenting traffic on Garland road, or gathering yet another aluminum can, he's definitely part of the East Dallas charm I too often take for granted.

But after I had the privilege of spending time one-on-one with Mr. Lieu Van Tran, I completely understood his inner grace and eternal smile. Lieu is from South Vietnam. After a dissatisfactory career as an aviation expert in the military, he chose to commandeer his own life driving a Tri-Shaw in Saigon City, not an easy task. This was also the vehicle that would bring Lieu to the United States, a journey that would be his sole focus for 15 years.

Lieu made three attempts to flee the Vietcong after the North's invasion of South Vietnam. The first two resulted in prison sentences, but Lieu's third and final attempt to leave was a test of pure survival, and what Lieu says, "in the hands of God". Lieu and forty-five other North Vietnamese shared a closed cargo crate no more than two meters by fifteen meters in size. No food, no water, no light for a seven day torturous journey to the island of Nakuna in Indonesia, where Lieu waited five months in a refugee camp for his exile to America.

Lieu finally arrived in Dallas March of 1985. Three years later he was able to arrange for his wife's exile, who now manages the day care facility at St. Pious Catholic Church. Lieu commutes eighteen miles on his bicycle everyday to his job as custodian of the IMAX Theater at the Science Place in Fair Park. That's about 70,000 miles. I'm relieved to know Lieu is eligible for retirement this June, but I doubt he'll retire that bike.

Mr. Tran beams as he speaks of America, and is proud of the life (and upcoming retirement) he and his wife have worked hard for. One they might have never known. So the next time you see Lieu, give him a smile. And please, give him the right of way.

Liza Orchard

Anyone who goes over to White Rock Lake appreciates the days when it looks clean, and cringes on the days when it is full of trash. The clean days are thanks to an army of volunteers under the direction of Forest Hills' own Marcie Novac. Our neighborhood, along with several other neighborhoods and organizations, has adopted a section of shoreline and works to keep it clean. Forest Hills' section of shoreline is from the corner of Winsted and Garland up to the fishing pier on Garland Road.

According to Marcie, our neighborhood used to be a prime example for the trash patrol, but no longer. Forest Hills' "army of volunteers" is in dire need of reinforcements.

We are hoping to enlist new recruits. We want to get at

least two families each month to volunteer. The minimum amount of work is to participate in the Second Saturday Trash Bash that month. Additional time monitoring our section and keeping it clean is optional. That would mean a family is obligated to participate only once a year for two hours - not too tough.

Actually, the Trash Bash is kind of fun - lots of great people working to make the best park in Dallas even better. If you are not inspired by a sense of pride in doing a civic duty, at least be inspired by all the great free rolls, cookies and coffee (that are free)s when you go to pick up your trash bags.

We need your help. Call Kathy Knutson at 214-324-3195 or Rick Reeves at 214-321-3053 and Talk Trash.





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Keep the Forest in Forest Hills

Our FHA begins planting trees in our medians and common areas soon. And we urge every homeowner to replace a lost or fallen tree one or even more.

Here's why: Trees add more than greenery, natural beauty and value to our properties. They are environmental heroes that gobble up air pollutants helping the air we breathe by removing the carbon dioxide responsible for half of the greenhouse effect. Trees are a natural control against global warming. A healthy tree removes 25-45 lbs. of carbon from the air each year, and gives us back the precious gift of oxygen.

Trees also buffer noise, cool hot spots, and if placed well, can shade buildings and reduce their energy consumption up to 50%. Unfortunately, statistics say for every four trees removed only one is planted. So please do what you can to preserve the future Forest Hills.

A very big thanks to Deborah Allison for her generous contribution to the FHA, as well as to Merrie Spaeth and Tex Lezar for their future contribution.

Cub Scouts Pack 544

All 1st, 2nd, 3rd grade boys and their parents are welcome to join Pack 544. We meet on Monday, 2-14, 2-21, 2-28, from 7pm to 8pm in the Sanger Community Center. Come join us.

Sanger Needs Your Paper

Sanger wants you to remember the paper recycling bins located on the Teachers Parking lot. They need all your newspapers, magazines, telephone directories, junk mail, and cardboard boxes. (broken down and flat, please.) The school has raised over \$400 since we started recycling.

Volunteers Needed

Be a teacher's aide or reading tutor. Make copies, help in the uniform closet, read to students or let students read to you. Be a mentor. Call Max Hardesty at 214-324-4960.

The Principal's Request

I would like to encourage you to donate any new or used children's books you might have to Alex Sanger Elementary. The books are greatly needed for our reading program which requires students to read a grade level appropriate number of minutes each day. For students to become avid and good readers, they need the opportunity to have books in their hands and readily available for use and enjoyment. To help us instill a love for the life long skill of reading, please contact the school office by phone, 214-319-0260, or bring your book contributions by the school between 8 am and 4 pm.

Thank you for your generosity and support,
Larry Allen, Ph.D.
Principal

Let's Adopt Sanger

As a neighborhood, we should think about adopting Sanger Elementary. We could hold a fundraiser for a jogging track or to upgrade their playground equipment. Both are items they desperately need. Let's clean out our corporate closets and donate supplies. We can all benefit from this.

Here are some of the school's equipment needs:

- 2 Laminating Machines
- 4 Craft Paper Rollers
- A small copier
- Library equipment (VCR, Listening Centers, Overhead Projector)

Computer equipment: at least a 486 PC that can run Windows 95

- A Macintosh 5200 Power PC
- Any SCSI Parallel Printer that is Mac & PC compatible

An LCD Projector

Ink cartridges for Image Writers

Minor supplies needed:

- Pencils, folders or crayons
- Glue sticks
- Construction paper
- Tempera paints
- Notebook paper
- Mimeograph paper

Call Max Hardesty to donate any equipment or supplies.

Introducing the FH Children's Network

Attention all the Forest Hills Families:

There are so many new wonderful families with children looking for ways to connect with other families in our neighborhood. And with so many choices of schools and pre-schools, it's easy to see why families in Forest Hills have such a difficult time getting to know one another.

We would like to create a Forest Hills Children's Network that primarily provides monthly events to bring all the neighborhood kids together to get to know one another. These will be "events", not playgroups. Of course, playgroups may evolve as parents get to know one another.

Since we do not have a central meeting place or own park, we will start meeting where we can. Soon, we'll publish times, dates and location as our Children's Network evolves.

If you would like more information or want to help, please call Neoma Twining at 214-320-0229, or Gloria Tarpley at 214-327-8402.

Early Childhood PTA

Attention all parents of children below age 5. We are creating an Early Childhood PTA at Sanger Elementary. Even if you are considering private schools, the benefits of a powerful elementary school environment are countless. Not only for our kids, but to further Forest Hills as a premiere neighborhood in which to live.

Lakewood has a successful ECPTA and they can boast of having one of the best elementary schools in DISD. We have an exciting opportunity to give Lakewood a little competition. If you're interested in being part of Sanger's Early Childhood PTA, call Mary Preussel at 214-320-3434, or e-mail her at dukenmary@aol.com.

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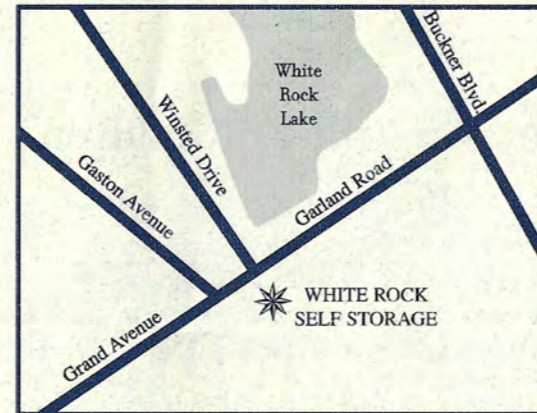
- He is honest and dependable.
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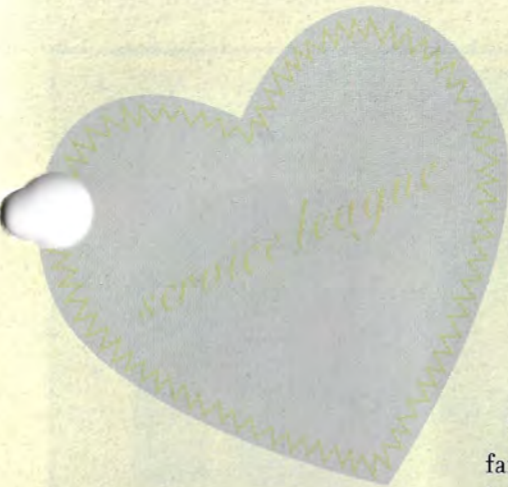
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Ho, Ho, Ho, Heck of a Holiday Party

The FHA Holiday Party on December 19 was fantastic! Over 200 neighbors gathered on the lawn between the homes of Mary-Pat and Bruce Smith and Kathe and Don Caire on Forest Hills Blvd. Everyone brought a covered dish, and needless to say, the hot chocolate, apple cider and spiced wine were big hits.

Children of all ages (yes, Bill Jackson we saw you) enjoyed the free train rides. And we'd like to thank all of you for the dozens of new unwrapped toys that were collected and donated to the Buckner Children's Home. You all helped make someone's holiday very special. The FHA would also like to thank the Smiths and the Caires for hosting this event, and David Buhmann for doing an outstanding job cooking hot dogs. Neil Farris deserves special recognition for being his jolly self (wink-wink). What's more, \$100 in the donation jar helped offset the cost of such a joyful neighborhood event.

Our Spring block party is May 21 from 5 to 7pm in the front yard of Patti & Neal's house, 8246 San Benito. Hope to see you there.

Green Thumbs-Up for Yard of the Month Winners

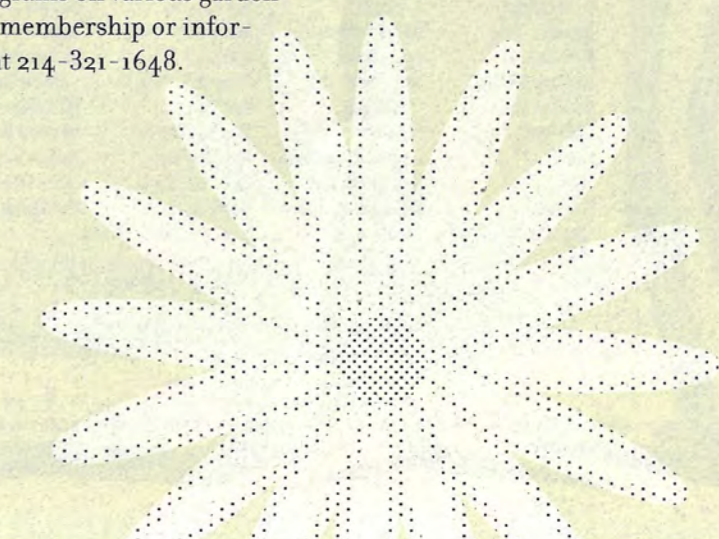
December/January - David Westerfield
 8427 San Fernando Way

January/February - Jack and Candy Kellam
 8154 San Benito Way

The Garden Club meets on the First Thursday of each month alternating between morning and evening meetings in members' homes. Special speakers and programs on various garden subjects are offered. For membership or information, call Judi Boyles at 214-321-1648.



Forest Hills Easter Egg Hunt
 Saturday, April 15, 4-6pm
 Meet on the lawns of the
 Whorton's and Walton's
 8367 and 8379 Santa Clara
 Call Amy or Linda for info
 or to help volunteer



OFFICERS

President	John Mitchell	972 238	214-324-5538
President Elect	Robert Shive	9600	214-321-2355
Past President	Margaret Smith	X107	214-327-5206
Vice President	Randy Duke		214-521-6300
Secretary	Laurie Woods		214-319-7245
Treasurer	Bob Jones		214-321-3221
Parliamentarian	Ruth Potter		214-321-2176

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

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Crime Watch	Debbie Jenevein		214-320-0597
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Communications	Randy Duke		214-521-6300
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Newsletter Editor	Liza Orchard		214-320-0370
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	Grant Wall		214-321-9199
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	Judi Boyles		214-321-1648

Advertising is welcomed in the FHA Quarterly Newsletter. Rates are as follows:

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The rates are for four issues. This is a great way to reach customers in your neighborhood. Ad closing for the upcoming June 2000 issue is May 12. Please contact Mary Preussel at 214-320-3434 for more information.

Voice Alert Number: 214-967-5077
E-mail: foresthills1@aol.com
www.neighborhoodlink.com/dallas/fha

Forest Hills Association

Randy Duke
8422 San Benito Way
Dallas, TX 75218

To Our
Forest Hills
Neighbors