

FOREST HILLS ASSOCIATION

SECOND QUARTER 1990 UPDATE

Message From the President

Neighborhood Update

Once again we find ourselves taking a serious look at what the City has planned and how these changes can affect our neighborhood. Our Zoning and Thoroughfare Committee Chairman, Gary Coffman, provides us with information in this newsletter and at the April 12 meeting. We urge you to take an interest and attend this important meeting.

While the City persists in their plans to widen some streets, increase traffic in our neighborhood and threaten the quality of life in Forest Hills, they still haven't approved the funding for median

and street improvements on Forest Hills Blvd. and Breezewood.

Great support and enthusiasm was evident in our appeal to the city to approve the funding. Volunteers circulated petitions urging City Council Representative Glenn Box to get the council to approve the funding for this project. Many thanks are due to those neighborhood volunteers who always seem to be there for the rest of us.

Thanks too, to Wes Loegering for the tedious, detailed work involved with updating and revising the Forest Hills Association by-laws. The Association board worked hours to improve the

Just the Facts

Annual April Meeting

Date: Thursday, April 12

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Place: Alex Sanger School
Auditorium
*San Leandro at
St. Francis*

Agenda: By-law Revisions
Proposed Zoning/
Thoroughfare
Changes
Service League Update
Crime Watch Update

10 Ways You Can Do Something Good for YOUR Neighborhood Association

1. Advise the Newcomers Welcoming Committee when someone new moves in near you. Call Betsy Pauly at 327-5024.
2. The *squeaky wheel gets the grease*. Report potholes and damaged streets. Complain about unruly medians and deteriorating curbsides. Call 744-3600.
3. Contact the Action Center at 744-3600 to complain about zoning violations in Forest Hills, including unkept homes or yards, vacant houses needing maintenance or other violations of City ordinances.
4. Offer to help call people about special events in the neighborhood. Or call if you would like to be on the list we call. Contact Kelly Hughes at 327-7799.
5. Pay your 1989-90 Forest Hills Association voluntary dues to our treasurer, Nancy Gatens. Send \$10 or any desired amount to her at 8106 San Fernando Way.
6. Let the board know how you feel about things in the neighborhood. Call Heidi Crowell at 320-1687.
7. Help fold and label newsletters (even if it's just once a year) or help distribute fliers on your block. We desperately need persons from Santa Clara, San Cristobal and San Leandro. Call Sandra Nottestad at 324-0094.
8. Don't trash up the neighborhood. The City picks up large articles on a regular monthly basis. *Please* don't leave things sit out for three weeks before pick-up.
9. Buy advertising space in our new Forest Hills directory. The directory should be published in early summer and will be current for several years. To promote your company or service at reasonable rates, call Heidi Crowell at 320-1687.
10. Participate in Arbor Day 1990. Help plan this important event that will help us replace trees lost in the July storm. Call Chuck Pauly at 327-5024 to volunteer.

outdated by-laws for the future of Forest Hills, and Wes' expertise was invaluable.

An extremely busy schedule has made it necessary for Forest Hills Association Vice President Susan Wells to step down from her position. Susan has served many years and has been dedicated to the neighborhood through thick and thin. Thank you Susan for all your efforts.

Congratulations and best wishes to our neighbor and *new* State Representative, John Carona. With his great responsibilities ahead, the FHA board voted unanimously to grant John's wish to step aside from his role as FHA president. Heidi Crowell, who replaces Susan Wells as vice president, has volunteered to fill in for John as president until the neighborhood elections this fall.

There are windows of opportunity for you to help your neighborhood association. Outlined at left are 10 ways you can contribute. I urge you to get involved!

Although we already know that we live in the best part of the city, there is always more that we can do. We appeal to your sense of pride. Make Forest Hills better than ever!

— Heidi Crowell, *Acting President*

By-Law Revisions

The Forest Hills Association Board has undertaken a thorough revision of the by-laws in order to pave the way for tax-exempt status and to eliminate ambiguities in the current by-laws. The revised by-laws will be presented to the membership for consideration and adoption at the semi-annual Forest Hills Association meeting to be held April 12, 1990. The changes include:

1. Intent of the Association to incorporate and seek non-profit status under federal and state law.
2. Defined functions and clarified functions of standing committees.
3. Added Associate Membership category.
4. Provided new officer positions to streamline transitions from one year to the next, to maintain continuity and prevent loss of momentum.
5. Expanded the powers of the members and reduced the powers of the Board concerning future by-law amendments.

Once these by-laws are adopted, the Board intends to incorporate the Association and obtain tax-exempt status which should stretch our limited beautification dollars further and enhance our community goals.

Copies of the existing proposed by-laws are available at the homes of any Board members. Board members include all officers of the Association and committee chairmen.

Zoning and Thoroughfare Committee The Bulldozer Cometh

Did you really think that the street widenings and increase in traffic through our neighborhood was ancient history? Well, neighbor, think again . . .

The Department of Transportation has put forth a new thoroughfare plan update that has some very curious changes in store for Lakeland Blvd., Highland Road, San Rafael and a little-known street named Valley Glen. Although most of us have been expecting the City to mount some sort of campaign to upgrade both Lakeland and Highland, who ever heard of Valley Glen?

Some of the old-timer "road warriors" remember Valley Glen all too well. At

present, Valley Glen is just a dead-end road on the other side of Tenison Park just off Samuel. Those studious folk among us were promised a long, long time ago that it would always remain as is—a DEAD END!

Not any more. The new plan calls for Valley Glen to be widened and built as a four-lane collector road that will cut across Tenison Park and join Highland just south of Ash Creek. What this will mean is increased traffic on Highland, Barbaree, San Leandro and Lakeland. Sound familiar? Does self-fulfilling prophecy mean that ultimately, Highland, too, will need to be widened? What about Lakeland? What about Roseland Parkway?

Nahhh. We defeated all that stuff a long, long time ago. Didn't we? Well, maybe not. In the Feb. 27, 1990, *Dallas Times Herald*, Jim Schutze explains another reason for the current major thoroughfare plan revision (a reprint is enclosed).

Could it be a vendetta against East Dallas as Mr. Schutze asserts? Attend our April 12 neighborhood meeting to learn what you can do to protect our neighborhood's integrity.

Unfortunately, this is not a "dead-end" issue. We need your help!

Forest Hills/Breezewood Re-Construction Postponed . . . Again

On March 14, Bill Jessup of the Department of Public Works, and Bob Blodgett, Assistant City Manager with responsibility for public works projects, notified Forest Hills Association that, once again, the City of Dallas has decided **not** to issue the necessary capital improvement bonds to fund the reconstruction of Forest Hills Blvd. and Breezewood Drive.

Mr. Blodgett explained the reason for the postponement was that the City had reached its capital debt limit and that there were many projects which would not be funded this year. There will be a bond sale which will cover the flood control programs associated with Five Mile Creek and the property acquisition and residual street improvements associated with the Central Expressway project.

Mr. Blodgett would not commit on when bonds would be sold or funding would be available for the \$1.2 million required for our projects, but indicated that Councilman Box had requested that he come up with a commitment within the next two or three weeks.

It has been emphasized to Mr. Blodgett and Mr. Jessup that Forest Hills Association would be extremely disappointed with the City of Dallas should they decide to once again postpone the sale of bonds for projects desperately needed in the neighborhood.

Mr. Blodgett has been invited to attend our April 12 Forest Hills Association meeting to explain the City's current reasons for postponing the issuance of the bonds for our projects. In order for the City to avoid losing further credibility with our neighborhood, it would be most appropriate for Mr. Blodgett to attend this meeting.

You are invited to discuss the City's decision with Mr. Blodgett and ask questions regarding the current status of these projects. We need to understand some of the *real* reasons why the City continues to postpone the start of these projects. Please attend the April 12 meeting.

Beautification and Restoration Committee

Plants, Plants, Plants

Plant pick-up for our second annual plant sale is now set for April 6-8 in the 8300 block of Forest Hills. (The original March dates were rescheduled when there was a threat of frost.)

Top-quality flowers, including periwinkles, marigolds (dwarf), impatiens and begonias are available in flats of 20. Your cost is just \$14 per flat. You still have time to phone in your order to Diane Sobey at 328-5977 or Mimi Jernigan at 327-2559. You must pre-order plants. The deadline for ordering is April 3!

Volunteers will deliver plants to senior citizens. All others may pick up plants on April 6, 7, 8.

This is an excellent way to support the Forest Hills Association, beautify the neighborhood and buy top-quality plants at a great price.

Yard of the Season

Congratulations to the Sobey family! The Beautification & Restoration Committee has selected the yard of Diane and Terry Sobey, 8372 Garland Road, as the Forest Hills yard of the season. It takes a lot of hard work to make a yard beautiful, and the Sobey's efforts are appreciated by all.

The Sobey home is just one in the neighborhood that looks great. Many yards were especially beautiful this spring, with attractive displays of pansies, daffodils and tulips brightening the landscape.

Alley Clean-Up

Watch for the "Alley Clean-Up" signs to remind you of the City's pick-up date for large items. This date is always the second Monday/Tuesday of every month. The April dates are April 9-10.

Please be a good neighbor. Keep your yard and alley picked up. Do not put your trash at the street all month for everyone to endure. Put your trash out the weekend before the City comes. Reminder: Our medians are not a dumping ground. Everyone working together does make a difference.

Neighborhood to Receive Igloos for Recycling

The City has agreed to give us three igloos to be used for collection of recyclable materials. All three igloos will be placed in St. Francis Park—one for colored glass; one for clear glass and one for aluminum. They will be maintained by the City, with proceeds going to Forest Hills Association.

By recycling your aluminum and glass containers you help the environment as well as your neighborhood. For more information contact David Coons at 327-4297.

Committee Meeting Scheduled

The Beautification & Restoration Committee will meet April 11 at 7:30 p.m. at 8334 Forest Hills Blvd. We will be making plans for Arbor Day as well as planning additional activities. If you are interested in serving on this committee or just have some great ideas to share, please attend this meeting. Call Mimi Jernigan at 327-2559 to RSVP. Also, if

you are interested in forming the first Forest Hills Garden Club, call Mimi for details.

Service League

Upcoming Events

The Service League is busy planning many fun-filled activities for you and your children. We hope you will join us!

Easter Egg Hunt A neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt will be held Saturday, April 14, at 10 a.m., in St. Francis Park. Please bring one dozen filled plastic eggs for each child in your family to Diane Sobey, 8372 Garland Road (Corner of Garland Road and St. Francis) by April 11. Her number is 328-5977.

There will be coffee and donuts for the adults and games for the children.

Don't miss this event. It's fun for you and your children! Bring your camera!

Celebration of Summer

Parade and Picnic This was one of our most successful events last year, and this year will be even better. It has been scheduled for Saturday, June 16.

We need volunteers to spread the word, coordinate the parade participants, decorate and plan refreshments. Please call Louie Buckman at 328-0116 if you are interested in being involved. This is a *fun* activity and an *easy* way to contribute to the neighborhood.

Service League Meeting

Calendar Service League meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month. They are open to all neighbors in Forest Hills. The Service League sponsors fun activities for children and adults, provides meals for new parents, welcomes new neighbors and shares news with the neighborhood. The following meetings are scheduled:
— May 15, 7 p.m., the home of Betsy Pauly, 8146 San Fernando Way.
— June 19, 7 p.m., the home of Susan Brown, 8319 San Fernando Way.
— July 17, 7 p.m., Pot Luck Dinner, the home of Diane Sobey, 8372, Garland Rd.

Mark your calendar now for these upcoming meetings. You may contact any of the Service League members below for more information.

President Karen Williams, 321-5490
Vice President Barbara Anderson, 328-2268

Secretary Lois Diggs, 324-9229
Membership Chairman Jayne Buckroyd, 321-0740

Communications Chairman Kelly Hughes, 327-7799

Neighbor Relations Chairman Laura Devin, 321-0003

Newcomers Chairman Betsy Pauly, 327-5024

Special Event Chairman Louie Buckman, 328-0116

Pot Luck Dinner a Success

Many thanks to John and Debbie Carona for hosting our February pot luck dinner. About 60 people turned out, bringing wonderful dishes. We all had a chance to meet some new neighbors and visit with old friends.

Crime Watch

Crime Wave: Is Your Home Next?

At least three Forest Hills homeowners were burglarized during a 10-day period in mid-March. The break-ins occurred during the day. In most cases the front or side door was kicked in. Two of the homes had security systems. In one instance the alarm apparently prevented any loss of property. In another case, the alarm limited the amount of time spent in the home and only partially reduced the loss of property.

Let's fight back. Attend the April 12 meeting to discuss alternatives.

At least one neighbor has suggested we hire a private security company to patrol the neighborhood. The estimated cost for this service is staggering—approximately \$25-30 per month per home for 24-hour patrol, seven days per week, for our 500-home area.

Many neighborhoods have dramatically reduced crime by increasing the vigilance of their crime watch program.

Can't we organize our own patrols and watch our neighbors' homes? Can't we pick up the phone and call police when we observe unusual people or activity? Sure we can.


Attend the neighborhood meeting April 12. You can help protect your home, your family and your property.



Walton's
Lawn & Garden Center
Landscaping & Maintenance

8642 Garland Rd. • Dallas, TX 75218
(214) 321-2387

3rd Generation Tex-Mex Chef
Catering & Consulting



Matt Martinez, Jr.

Food To Go

7726 Ferguson Road
Dallas, Texas 75228
(214) 328-5797

Stationary • Distinctive Gifts • Home Accessories

Dabney's

198 Casa Linda Plaza
Dallas, Texas 75218

214-327-9296

Crime Report

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| <i>December</i> | |
| Burglary | 8300 San Leandro |
| Theft | 8300 San Fernando |
| Theft | 8300 Santa Clara |
| Auto Theft | 8000 San Cristobal |
| Vandalism | 8200 San Cristobal |
| Vandalism | 8300 San Cristobal |
| Theft | 8500 Eustis |
| <i>January</i> | |
| Theft | 8100 Forest Hills |
| Theft | 8200 San Cristobal |
| Theft | 8100 San Leandro |
| Theft | 8300 San Leandro |
| Burglary | 8500 San Leandro |
| Burglary | 8400 San Pedro |
| Auto Theft | 8300 San Benito |
| Vandalism | 8500 Eustis |

| | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|----------|
| Officers | President (Acting) | Heidi Crowell | 320-1687 |
| | Past President | Mickey Ashmore | 328-7043 |
| | Vice President | Mimi Jernigan | 327-2559 |
| | Secretary | Maxyne Heimgartner | 321-2092 |
| | Treasurer | Nancy Gatens | 321-7037 |
| Committee Chairmen | Beautification & Restoration | Mimi Jernigan | 327-2559 |
| | Crime Watch | Andie Comini | 328-0508 |
| | | Wes Loegering | 324-9844 |
| | Communications | Sandra Nottestad | 324-0094 |
| | Service League | Karen Williams | 321-5490 |
| | DABS Representative | Gary Coffman | 324-2280 |
| | Political Action | Tom Goranson | 321-5841 |
| | Zoning & Thoroughfare | Gary Coffman | 324-2280 |

Forest Hills Association
Sandra Nottestad
8328 San Benito Way
Dallas, TX 75218

