

Spring 2025

# Forest Hills News

www.foresthillsdallas.org



## Calendar of Events

**Spring Fling and Egg Hunt**  
Sunday, April 13, 12-2 p.m. ....18

**Spring Semi-Annual Neighborhood Meeting**  
Tuesday, April 29 .....4

**White Rock East Garden Tour**  
Sunday, May 4 .....20

**Warren Ferris Cemetery Volunteer Days**  
First Saturdays – Apr. 5, May 3, Jun. 7  
9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

**Cars & Coffee**  
First Saturdays – Apr. 5, May 3, Jun. 7  
10 a.m.

**Shoreline Spruce Up**  
Second Saturdays - Apr. 12, May 10, Jun. 14  
8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

**Street and Alley Clean-up (SAC)**  
Fourth Saturdays – Apr. 26, May 24, Jun. 28  
10 a.m.

### Bulky Trash

**April** – Set out Apr. 10  
Collection Apr. 14 - 18

**May** – Set out May 8  
Collection May 12 - 16

**June** – Set out Jun. 5  
Collection Jun. 9 - 13

*Please place all brush and trash on your own property according to the City of Dallas guidelines. Do not place debris on medians or common areas.*

**Summer 2025 newsletter articles and ads are due Sunday, June 1**

## NEIGHBOR SPOTLIGHT

# MORE Design + Build



**Chad Dorsey and Kurt Bielawski**, the founders of MORE Design + Build, don't just design and build beautiful homes—they live in them. As longtime residents of Forest Hills, they have designed and lived in multiple homes within the neighborhood, always drawn back by its towering trees and natural beauty. Their love for the landscape runs so deep that they do more than preserve the greenery around their home—they actively add to it, weaving the forest into their designs, one tree at a time.



This passion for nature extends beyond their personal properties. Kurt, as the Beautification Chair for the neighborhood, plays an active role in enhancing and sustaining the community's green spaces. His long-term vision will ensure that common green areas flourish and evolve with the neighborhood. Their life in Forest Hills inspires them to bring that same sense of natural harmony to their clients' homes.

At MORE Design + Build, Chad and Kurt specialize in

## NOTICE

**Don't Miss the FHNA Spring Neighborhood Meeting**

**Tuesday, April 29**

**6:30 – 8 p.m.**

**Times Ten Cellars**

*Continued on Page 21*



## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

# Welcome to spring!

I love the beauty of spring. Flowers blooming, the grass turning green, and those spring rains leaving the air smelling fresh and clean. We have the usual Dallas allergies, but the perfect patio weather makes it worth it.

We have some exciting events happening this spring. Our annual Spring Fling is happening on Sunday, April 13th. Bring the family and say hi to the Easter Bunny. We will have an Easter Egg Hunt for the kiddos (pg 10). The annual White Rock East Garden Tour is Sunday, May 4th. Three of our neighbors will be featured on the tour and part of the ticket proceeds benefit Forest Hills' beautification efforts. Volunteers are still needed. Contact Kathy Glenn at kathyglenn@hotmail.com if you would like to help (pg 12). Don't forget to attend our Spring Neighborhood Meeting which will be held on Tuesday, April 29th. It's the best way to get caught up on what is happening in the neighborhood as well as a great way to mingle with neighbors (pg 4).

Until a few years ago, Forest Hills held an annual Fourth of July Parade and Picnic. It was one of the favorite events in the neighborhood. We know many of you travel during the summer, but we would still like to gauge interest in rekindling an event to celebrate our nation's birthday. Feel free to email our social chairs at fhnsocial@gmail.com with event ideas or if you want to help plan something.

Lastly, it's not too late to pay your annual FHNA membership dues (pg 4).

Regards,  
Kathleen Davis  
FHNA President



## FHNA Officers - Committee Chairs & Liaisons

### **FHNA President**

Kathleen Davis  
fhnapresident24@gmail.com

### **FHNA Vice President**

OPEN POSITION

### **FHNA Secretary**

OPEN POSITION

### **FHNA Treasurer**

Phil Sammarco  
fhnatreasurer1@gmail.com

### **Beautification Chair**

Kurt Bielawaski  
FHBeautification@gmail.com

### **Social Chairs**

Meg Lohr & Alicia Alvarez  
fhnsocial@gmail.com

### **FHNA Newsletter Chair**

Diana Whitworth Nelson  
fhnanewsletter101@gmail.com

### **Membership & Newcomers Chair**

OPEN POSITION

### **Planning & Zoning Chair**

Garry Brown  
fhnapandz@gmail.com

### **Communications Chair**

OPEN POSITION

### **Board Members at Large**

Susan Bailey  
Jason Pumpelly

### **Media Relations & Support Local**

Andie Comini  
andiecomini@aol.com

### **Webmaster**

Sharon Hill  
sharonhilltexas@gmail.com

### **Liaisons**

#### **Animal Alert!**

Christi Cameron  
917-225-6802  
Cctx2ny@aol.com

#### **Alex Sanger Liaison**

Katy O'Mara  
fhna21.Gen@gmail.com

### **FH Security Program**

Layne Deutscher, Sr.  
fhspboard@gmail.com

### **FH Young Children's Club (FHYCC)**

Kate Reed - Melissa Pressley  
fhchildrensclub@gmail.com

### **Ferguson Road Initiative**

Daniel Ortman  
daniel.ortman@fergusonroad.org

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

Julie Fineman  
julie@julieannfineman.com

### **Waste Warriors Liaison**

Elizabeth Kinkead  
Elizabethlylekinkead@msn.com

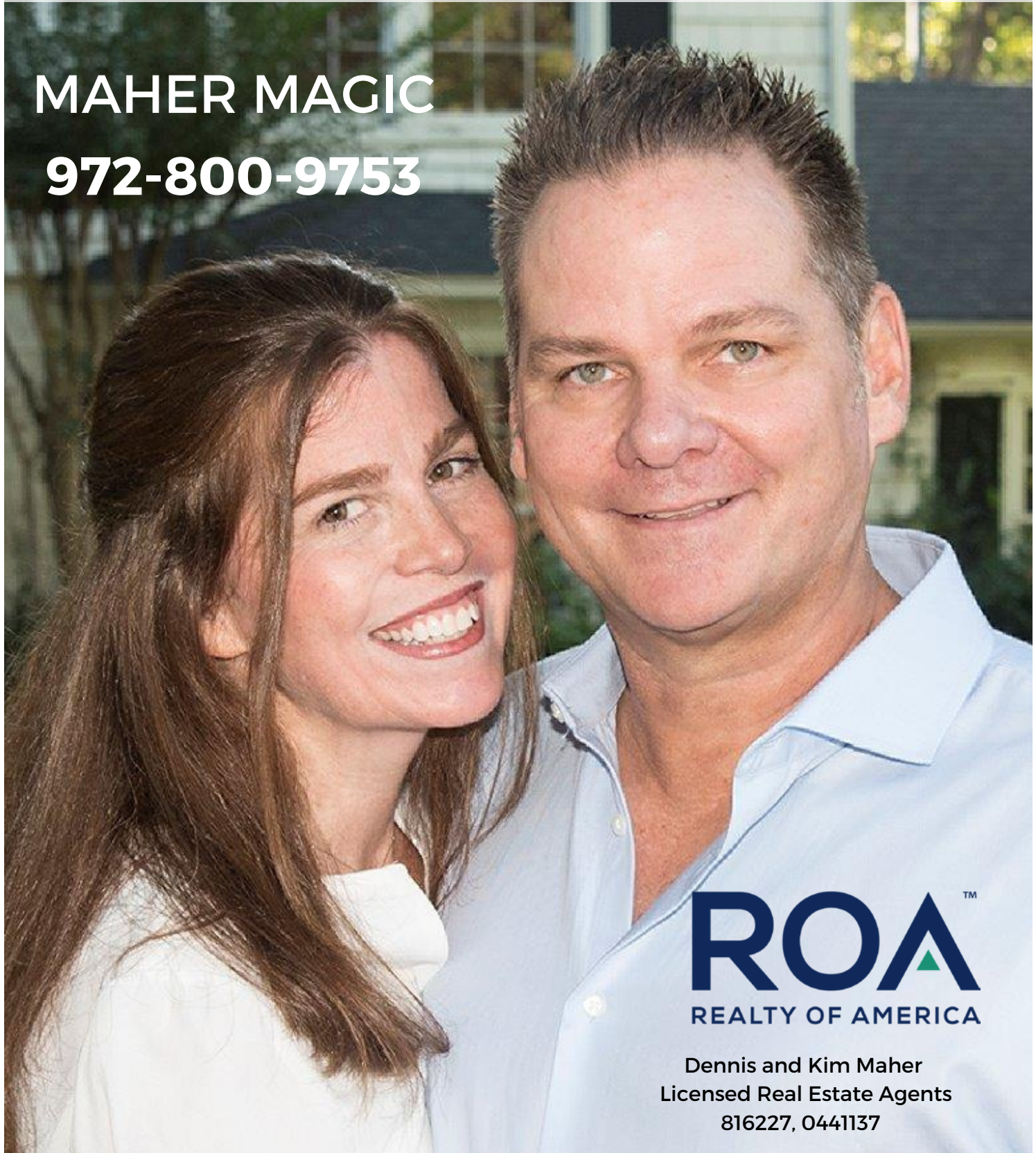
### **White Rock East Garden Tour**

Kathy Glenn  
kathyglenn@hotmail.com

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**FHNA**  
*Spring*  
 Neighborhood Meeting

Tuesday, April 29th,  
 6:30-8pm

2nd Annual Trivia Night  
 Times Ten Cellars  
 6324 Prospect Ave

**PAY YOUR 2025  
 FHNA DUES**

Annual Dues - \$75  
 Over 65 Annual Dues - \$45

Or mail your check (payable to FHNA) to:  
 Forest Hills Neighborhood Association  
 P.O. Box 180897, Dallas, TX 75218  
*Dues are not tax-deductible*

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**DATE NIGHT SPOT**

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# Planning & Zoning



Work on the sewer bypass project resumed in early February. Despite all the cold weather the big hole at the Breezewood Dr. median and San Fernando Way has been completed, closed and paved! It happened in less than 3 weeks. Work will continue on other portions of our Big Dig. The city says it will be all complete by Summer....2025!

**Visit and bookmark [foresthillsdallas.org](http://foresthillsdallas.org) to stay current on our Big Dig and the White Rock Lake Master Plan.**



# SUMMER CAMP

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**4 SESSIONS TO CHOOSE FROM!**

**Dates:** May 27-August 1

**Ages:** PreK 4 - Rising 5th Graders

**Location:** 1450 Old Gate Lane 75218

### HOURS

**Camp Hours:** 8:30-2:30

**Extended Care Hours:** 2:30-5:30

### HOW TO REGISTER/ASK QUESTIONS:

**Website:** [Studiobellaforkids.com](http://Studiobellaforkids.com)

**Questions:** [info@studiobellaforkids.com](mailto:info@studiobellaforkids.com)

**JOIN IN ON THE SUMMER FUN!**





# FHSP HAS BEEN BUSY!



# are you **IN?**



EVERY NEIGHBOR  
EVERY HOUSEHOLD  
ONE COMMUNITY

- **The Forest Hills Security Program** is built on a simple idea: Every Neighbor. Every Household. One Community. When we work together, we create a safer, stronger Neighborhood for ALL.
- **Safety Starts with You!** More Members not only means keeping Patrol Hours optimal – it increases Community connection and awareness.
- **JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORS AND BE PART OF SOMETHING LARGER!**



QR Code For  
How the \$180,000  
Was Determined

## New for 2025! Home Security Walk-Throughs

Want to improve your Home's security? FHSP now offers Home Security Walk-Throughs with our dedicated DPD officer! Upon request, an officer will walk through your home and property, identifying areas for improvement—such as lighting, window security, cameras, and more.

Take proactive steps to protect your home and gain expert insights tailored to your property. Small changes can make a big difference!

Use [fhsboard@gmail.com](mailto:fhsboard@gmail.com) to request more information about Walk-Throughs!

**SAVE  
THE DATE**



#fhbrewing2025

### Event Information

**When:** Friday October 17, 2025

**What:** Auction, Raffles, Beer, Wine, Dinner by Food Glorious Food

**Where:** Filter Building on White Rock Lake



## Attention Car Enthusiasts

Now that the weather is improving, The Forest Hills Car Club, Cars & Coffee, will be meeting again monthly. The get togethers are held on Breezewood and San Fernando at 10 a.m. on the first Saturday of each month.

**Mark your calendars and come by and kick some tires!  
April 5 | May 3 | June 7**

We have summer break during July and August and will start again September 6, October 4, November 1 and December 6.

Also, the All British and European Car Show will be held at the Bath House Cultural Center on Mother's Day, May 11.

This is a free event and an opportunity to see unusual and interesting European cars. To get on our mailing list email [dennyhunt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dennyhunt@sbcglobal.net).





FRIENDS OF THE  
**WARREN FERRIS CEMETERY**

**More on Forest Hills History**



**More on the history of Forest Hills, Reconnecting Our Neighborhood to Authentic Sense of Place.**

Forest Hills sits on the 640-acre farm that once belonged to Warren Angus Ferris, the first person to survey all of Dallas County when it was wilderness. His family’s cemetery is kitty-corner to Alex Sanger Prep School. The Friends of the Warren Ferris Cemetery (FWFC) are dedicated to preserving this remnant historic cemetery, once four acres. In the spirit of Warren Ferris, the FWFC have restored the land to a native wildlife habitat, reflecting what once was, to educate our community about it’s cultural and natural history.

**Celebrating Warren Angus Ferris Descendant, Christine Cohen...Making Her Dream A Reality**

Get ready for goosebumps...Christina has made her dream come true—a podcast about her ancestor, Warren Angus Ferris, is now live. She says, “...cousins cry with joy over this.” The first episode emphasizes the “mountain man” aspect and the journal. Part 2 focuses on his life in Texas. You can find it on Spotify: Episode 61 – Warren Angus Ferris – Man of the Mountain Land featured on the Frontier Partisans Podcast.

An eBook is also available about Mr. Ferris’ life in the Rocky Mountains: *A Diary of Wanderings on the Rivers Missouri, Columbia and Colorado, 1830-1835* by

Warren Angus Ferris on Audible Full Version Read for free. Christine found a book through BYU that discusses the early explorers who influenced Brigham Young’s decision to seek Zion in Utah. The show *American Primeval* on Netflix made me wonder if WAF’s journal and map had an influence in the decision to pursue the Salt Lake Valley. Christine was right!! This QR code leads to a chapter that talks about Warren Angus Ferris. There are also BYU student master’s thesis and PhD dissertations that reference WAF’s journal.



Congratulations Christine. Your persistence and dedication are very much admired.

The Ferris Cemetery is attracting volunteers from across Dallas to join us in its restoration on the first Saturday of every month. The cemetery is open every day from sunrise to sunset. You are invited to stroll this slice of heaven, a portal that will take you back in time and reconnect you with nature in a native landscape.

These photos capture the latest activities framing this story, from an Eagle Scout establishing a nature library in the cemetery, to families enjoying the great outdoors and learning about nature, while an Alex Sanger Prep school art class engages in learning the techniques of the Hudson River Art Movement within this beautiful setting.



FHNA  
**Spring Fling**  
& Easter Egg Hunt

**April 13, 2025 12-2 pm**

**The intersection of San Pedro Parkway and St. Francis**

Please join us for our annual Spring Fling and Easter Egg Hunt. Lots of fun for the kids with Easter egg hunts for the younger and older kids. The Easter Bunny may even hop by... More details to come in our monthly eblasts. For questions or to volunteer, please email [fhnasocial@gmail.com](mailto:fhnasocial@gmail.com)

**Kona Ice and Hamburger Man (until he runs out!)**

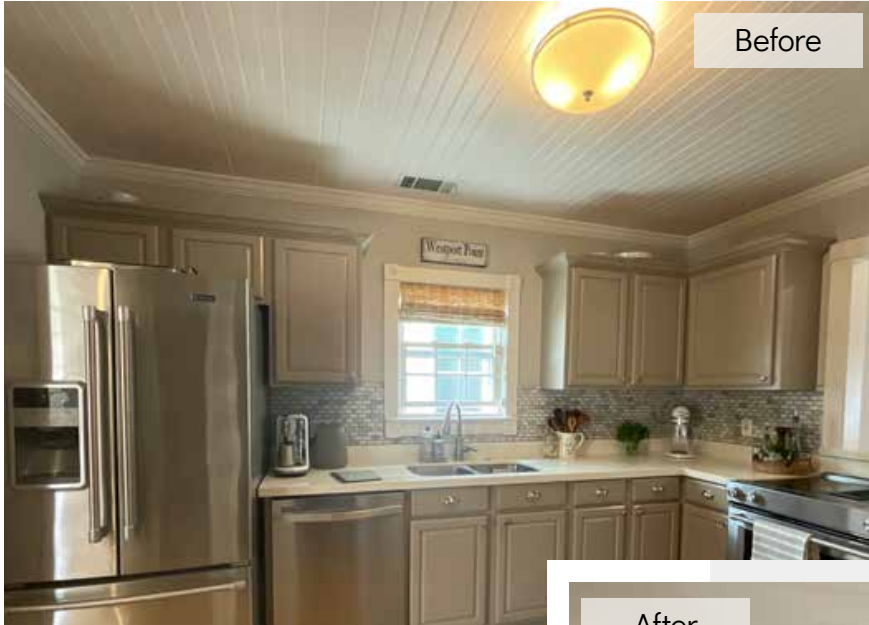
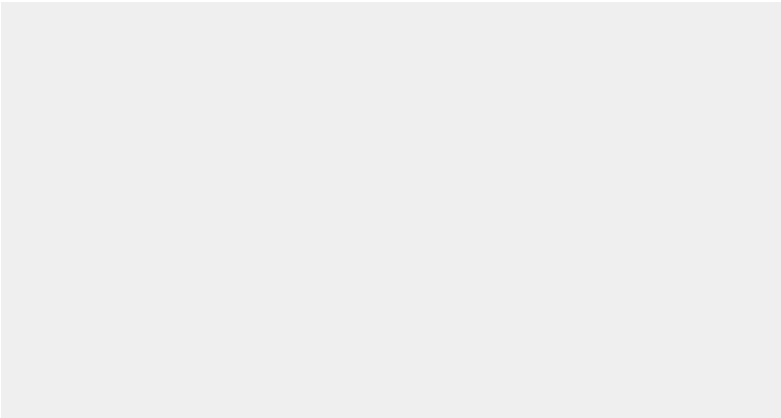
**For the adults—margaritas and rum swizzles**

**Celebrate spring—no kids required**





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After

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# White Rock East Garden T



**Join us as we celebrate nature's artistry and stroll through White Rock's most beautiful gardens.** Each is a delight to the senses, eclectic in design and sanctuary to the gardeners.

This year, three generous, hardworking garden owners from our neighborhood open their gates and welcome people from all over Dallas and North Texas. This is the FHNA fundraiser for beautification of our medians, maintenance of trees and additional plantings. What an easy and delightful way to support our neighborhood's beautification just by attending the Garden Tour.

Three homes plus the Historic Warren A. Ferris Cemetery will be showcased. The cemetery sits right in our neighborhood at the corner of St. Francis and San Leandro and is a hidden gem with historical significance for Dallas, Dallas County and North Texas history. The area is restored with native blooming plants that benefit local and migratory wildlife. Casa Linda Estates and Little Forest Hills are opening their gardens, also, for a total of 10 unique gardens. Each garden will have three artisans plus our Artist Alcove at Casa Linda Park with 10-12 artists displaying and selling their work. Everything from jewelry, sculpture, painting to woodworking. There are favorite artists returning and always new ones to peruse. There is something for everyone, no matter what the style.

The plant sale returns to Casa Linda Park. These plants are curated by the Blue Ribbon Lady, Dione Lineberry, who selects plants suitable for our North Texas weather. It's a popular event: arrive early to shop

for your favorites. Sale opens at 9:00 a.m.

If you attended WREGT 2024, you found food vendors and live music at one garden in each neighborhood. This returns for 2025 at the Forest Hills Blvd. garden.

To care for our environment and reduce plastic on the earth, the tour committee eliminated plastic water bottles and encouraged everyone to bring their water in reusable containers. This is a message that reflects the mission of the Forest Hills Waste Warriors.

*"The Garden Tour has made the leap from convenience and business as usual to courage and change. Flowers, trees and insects everywhere thank you for saying no to single-use plastic."* - Elizabeth Descarpentries

This is always a Spring highlight. Come and be inspired.

## **8531 San Benito Pkwy.**

### **Cecily Shull**

The first thing you notice is the large Live Oak tree which is actually two trees. Together they provide a large canopy of shade against the hot Texas sun while mature Crepe Myrtles draw your attention upward to vibrant pink flowers as they tower above the garden. Underneath these trees, rock paths draw you toward the front door and around to the side of the garden, where you will find wide seasonal, landscaped flowerbeds with Redleaf loropetalum, heuchera, pittosporum, yew, Japanese aralia and annual color. Five Japanese maples complete the garden, elegantly flanking the yard.

These wide beds continue past the iconic Adirondack chairs and into a backyard bursting with color

# Tour + Artisans May 4, 10a-5p



thoughtfully planned for relaxation by the stunning pool or an easy casual meal in the comfortable seating areas. Continue to the owner's outdoor office where she soaks up the serenity of the garden on display.

## 8236 San Cristobal Dr.

### Lynda Caughey and Kiki Futrell

This garden reflects the patient observation by Lynda regarding the hot Texas sun exposure, rainfall and soil conditions. Since Lynda's a fairly new arrival from the Pacific Northwest, diligent research was required as she started her favorite garden style featuring Japanese maples and ornamental dwarf conifers. Like many of us, she lost a mature Elm tree this past winter and is in a transitional period with a new Maple planted. She loves gardening and does her own shopping, digging, planting and tending her beds. After a day's work in the yard, she can rest in iconic Adirondack chairs on her front porch. There is nothing more satisfying to a gardener than observing your plants as they mature and become part of your garden. In the backyard, the porch overlooks their hot tub, more Japanese maples, herbs growing abundantly out of great pots and a vegetable garden. Don't miss the beautiful White Rose of Sharon which is the foundation of a beautiful white garden.

## 8334 Forest Hills Blvd.

### Adam and Stephanie Howell

This home is a quintessential Forest Hills Tudor with two large, mature red oaks balanced in the front yard.

A Live Oak planted will develop into a wide canopy for additional shade. Three understory Japanese maples add softness and color. The garden in front displays beautifully crafted seasonal flower beds that are filled with hydrangeas. Pansies are planted in front of the front porch area in the cooler months and white caladiums emerge for warmer months. These plantings have been repeated over the last few years and neighbors all anticipate and appreciate their arrival. This garden knows how to please. The trip down the driveway and into the backyard reflects a family that really enjoys their backyard! An outdoor cooking area, casual dining and relaxing area next to a beautiful pool are the perfect locations to enjoy family and friends. While appreciating this resort-like feeling, notice the seasonal flower beds along the back of the house and down the side fences. A family vegetable area is awaiting new plantings. This yard is large enough to accommodate the guesthouse or mother in law's apartment. Linger and imagine the fun about to happen.

## Purchase tickets at [whiterockgardentour.org](http://whiterockgardentour.org)

\$25 early bird, \$30 day of tour

Garden + artisans tour 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Plant sale 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Artist Alley 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Casa Linda Park, 9302 Alta Mira Dr.

Food and live music 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

8334 Forest Hills Blvd.



# White Rock East Garden Tour + Artisans

**Garden Gates Open Sunday, May 4th**

Purchase tickets at [whiterockgardentour.org](http://whiterockgardentour.org)

\$25 early bird, \$30 day of tour.

Garden + artisans tour 10:00 – 5:00

Plant sale 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Artist Alley 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Casa Linda Park, 9302 Alta Mira Dr.

Food and live music 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., 8334 Forest Hills Blvd.

## GOOD NEWS

# For the Love of the Lake



Forest Hills has officially re-adopted our longtime stretch in For the Love of the Lake's Adopt-A-Shoreline program. It's time to jump back in and help keep our beautiful lake looking its best. Join us for the Second Saturday Shoreline Spruce-Up—a fun morning of community and fresh air. Meet up at 8 a.m. every second Saturday to pitch in.

Can't make it? No problem! Grab a bag on your walks and help tidy up our stretch from Winstead to the first pier whenever you can. Plus, those deep knee bends while picking up trash are a great workout!

Meet at the spillway marquee  
(Garland and Winstead across from 7-Eleven)  
[skbmoi@swbell.net](mailto:skbmoi@swbell.net)



## Did You Know?

There are 103 property addresses in our neighborhood who haven't signed up to receive emails. E-blasts are the timeliest way to keep up to date on events and important neighborhood news. Don't miss out - sign up now.



## THE ULTIMATE COMMUNITY

### COOKOFF

2025  
*MEATFEST*



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# RIAD TILE

THE PREEMINENT COOKING COMPETITION OF EAST DALLAS IS BACK FOR A 6TH YEAR! AN AWESOME AFTERNOON OF GREAT FOOD, GREAT MUSIC, AND GREAT FRIENDS. HOSTED BY THE FATHERS OF ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC SCHOOL (FOSTA), ALL PROCEEDS GO TO IMPROVING THE SECURITY AND SAFETY OF OUR CHILDREN WHILE ON CAMPUS.

SCAN QR OR VISIT  
[WWW.STASCHOOL.ORG/MEATFEST](http://WWW.STASCHOOL.ORG/MEATFEST)  
TO BUY YOUR TICKETS TODAY!



## DETAILS:

- Team Cooking Competition
- All you can eat and drink
- Live Music
- Kids Games
- Adult Games

## WHEN:

Saturday,  
April 12, 2025  
12pm-5pm

## WHERE:

8400 Block of  
San Fernando  
Way, Dallas 75218

## QUESTIONS:

Colin Watson  
[colintwatson@gmail.com](mailto:colintwatson@gmail.com)  
Marc Parkinson  
[mparkinson@premierappraisaltx.com](mailto:mparkinson@premierappraisaltx.com)  
Brent Bosworth  
[brentbosworth@hotmail.com](mailto:brentbosworth@hotmail.com)

COMING TO FOREST HILLS

# THE NEAT NESTERS

•HOME ORGANIZATION•



Contact 214-686-1430 for your consultaion  
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### From the Big Screen to Your Home

We're two Bishop Lynch alums who turned our expertise in film, TV, and commercial styling into a passion for beautifully organized spaces. With experience designing for productions—including No Demo Reno on HGTV—we bring a creative eye and meticulous attention to every project. Let us help you create stylish, functional, and clutter-free spaces, just like we do on set!

# Welcome Newcomers!

### 8500 Block of Eustis

Greg Hosterman & Katie Kaeshoefer

### 8000 Block of San Leandro

Todd & Lola Lott

### 1300 Block of San Rafael

Jason & Jennifer Craven

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 at [fhnadallas@gmail.com](mailto:fhnadallas@gmail.com) with names/addresses, so we can extend a big welcome.

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# It's Spring! Time To Get Out...

Many take dogs for walks more often in the warmer weather. Make sure dogs are kept on leash. While your dog may be friendly and handle off leash walks well it is intimidating for other dogs on leash, especially shy or more reactive dogs. It's also the law.

Make sure you have poop bags and clean up after your pet. Dog poop is toxic for grass and contains pathogens which if washed into waterways may affect living things in the water and can make people sick. Dog waste also can carry disease. It is also common courtesy and being a good neighbor.

Spring is the perfect time to make sure your four-legged family members have their tags & microchips up to date.

**Supplies needed:** If you have cat or dog food you no longer need, I will be happy to take it off your hands. Call me and I will come by and get it.

## What is Animal Alert! and How Does it Work?

Animal Alert! is a service provided for our neighborhood when a family pet is lost or found.

Animal Alert! is NOT an animal shelter...if you see a stray, injured or deceased animal please call 3-1-1.

If you are interested in assisting with Animal Alert! please send me an email...I am not always available and having a list of others to call to help would be appreciated.

Thanks, and enjoy the warmer weather,

Christi Cameron  
(917) 225-6802  
animal\_alert@aol.com



## East Dallas Veterinary Clinic

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214-328-9935 [www.eastdallasvetclinic.com](http://www.eastdallasvetclinic.com)



# A HOME DESIGNED *for Your* ART COLLECTION

8125 SAN FERNANDO WAY, DALLAS, TX 75218 | OFFERED AT: \$2,850,000

Luxury meets versatility in this must-see transitional contemporary estate on a half-acre+ in Forest Hills, designed by Chase Coker. Situated in a close-knit community with an active and voluntary HOA, residents enjoy neighborhood events and special interest clubs for everyone from auto enthusiasts to nature lovers. This home also offers the privilege of proximity to White Rock Lake featuring a sprawling urban park where one can experience nature in the heart of the city and the Dallas Arboretum. The home features designer selected fresh paint inside and out, 5 bedrooms, 5.1 bathrooms, and an open floor plan that adapts to various life stages. Designed for mostly single-story living, this estate includes a private guest suite on the second floor that offers flexibility to suit your needs, making it perfect for a gym, home office, mother-in-law suite or nanny accommodations. The newly remodeled gourmet kitchen boasts a 48' La Cornue range, a 9-foot black leathered marble island and a custom wine room overlooking a resort-style pool with fountains and bench seating. The first-floor primary suite serves as a private retreat, complete with a veranda overlooking the grounds. A dedicated pool bathroom with a dry sauna adds convenience and luxury. Rich wood and stone floors, grand built-ins, designer lighting, three-car garage behind electric fence and Sonos surround sound throughout complete this exceptional home designed for living your way. Additionally, the neighborhood features a spectacular security patrol, ensuring peace of mind in this beautiful and engaged community.



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SCAN TO VIEW



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# Three things to inspire earth care:

Why building community matters, what's at the root of our climate crisis and how to feel more alive



## One reflection from me

***Divided We Trash, United We Restore:*** Coming Together for the 2025 Ferguson Road Litter Pick-Up

"I get into picking up litter," I texted one of our Forest Hills neighbors after the Ferguson Road Initiative's annual litter clean-up event on March 1. "Me too," he answered back. A group of Forest Hillers joined forces with our Enclave and White Rock Hill neighbors to tackle Highland Road from San Rafael to Ferguson. We all felt exhilarated afterwards about being outdoors on a beautiful morning and working in solidarity with others to make a difference.

It's gratifying to see this high-traffic artery completely cleared of the usual debris and feel a sense of accomplishment at all the bags of litter we piled up. Of course, all those bags point to the disconnect between our addiction to convenience and consumerism and its effect on our natural world, of which we are a part. When we trash our environment, we rob ourselves of our God-given dignity.

When we come together – especially outside – for a common cause, we start to feel more alive and connected to the world around us. We are paying close attention to the ground when we are picking up litter, we are listening to the wind and birds and we start to

merge with our surroundings. It is enlivening.

When we finished, people from Forest Hills, Forest Oaks, Claremont, White Rock Hills and White Rock Montessori met up in St. Francis Park for socializing and refreshments. Meeting new people, getting to know each other and what we care about and sharing food and stories bridges perceived separation – and builds community. I'm convinced it is the solution to creating a safer, more peaceful and engaged world.

## Two Quotes

### 1. Australian environmentalist John Seed on why our climate is in crisis

"Underlying all of the symptoms of the environmental crisis is the illusion of separation between human beings and the rest of the natural world."

*From Sounds True: Insights at the Edge: John Seed: A Cosmic Walk to Discover Your Ecological Identity, Sep 17, 2024*

### 2. Boyd Varty, author of *The Lion Tracker's Guide to Life*, on how to come alive.

"Where your attention goes, your life goes, and if you are constantly putting your attention on living things, there's more aliveness in your own life."

## Question for you

When do you feel most alive?



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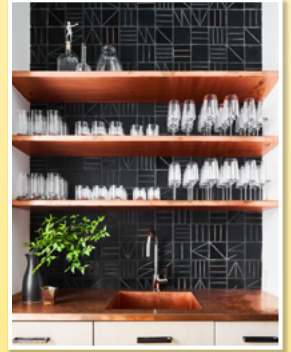


## NEIGHBOR SPOTLIGHT

# MORE Design + Build

*Continued from Page 1*

creating homes that feel elegant yet welcoming. Chad's expertise in architecture and interior design ensures each space is a perfect balance of beauty and function, while Kurt's deep knowledge of construction brings that vision to life. Their designs embrace natural materials, thoughtful landscaping and timeless



aesthetics, creating homes that feel as though they have always belonged to their surroundings.

Their work extends across Dallas, but their approach remains rooted in the philosophy they've developed in Forest Hills: homes should not only be built on the land but should grow with it. Whether designing a new build or reimagining an existing space, their goal is to craft deeply personal environments for their clients that offer both sanctuary and style.

For those seeking a home that is both beautifully designed and naturally integrated, visit [moredesignbuild.com](http://moredesignbuild.com).

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# Yard of the Month

By Wendy Rettinger

**January 2025**

**8334 Forest Hills Blvd • Adam and Stephanie Howell**

## Happy New Year

Happy New Year and congratulations to the first yard of the month winner in 2025. Make a new year's resolution to find and admire each Yard of the Month this year. January's YOM will not disappoint and is a true representation of Forest Hills because they have three enormous trees in their front yard. It is a cherished part of our community that we all can enjoy on our walks and the mail carriers especially appreciate them in the hot weather. The covered front porch has an inviting bench to enjoy the view. In addition to the beautiful trees, they have beautifully landscaped beds with colorful pansies which do very well in the colder winter months. Be sure to attend the Garden Tour this year in May and get a closer look at this winner!



**February 2025**

**8531 San Benito Way • Cecily Schull**

## Take a Seat

Does the cold winter weather and brown lawns make you a little sad this time of year? Maybe drive or walk around Forest Hills to find things to cheer you up, like the February YOM winner's yard. Here you may see the homeowners enjoying a chat in the sun in their welcoming red and green Adirondack chairs. They complement the house color perfectly. Don't miss this front yard in full bloom for the Garden Tour in May. The Crepe Myrtles will be bursting with color, and the front beds have many perennials, bushes and annuals, like dusty millers and pansies to admire. Hope to see you there.



**March 2025**

**8236 San Cristobal • Lynda Caughey**

## Blues & Maples

Have you noticed the theme at March's Yard of the Month winner? Blue is on display in quite a few aspects. At the street you are greeted by the cutest little book library. I took a book home to read and plan to add some books for others to enjoy. The front door is blue, along with some comfortable chairs on the front porch. Take a seat and enjoy the Maple trees this homeowner has lovingly planted. There are potted Japanese dwarf maples on the front porch. You will also find conifers and a shapely Eagleston Holly. Watch for this home on the Garden Tour this year where you will enjoy the wonderful blackberry garden in their back yard!





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