

Little Forest Hills

The next LFH Neighborhood Association General Meeting will be Tuesday, January 15, 2019 at 7:00 PM.

We will meet in the Parlor Room of White Rock United Methodist Church- 1450 Old Gate Lane. Enter on Garden/San Saba side.



Meet Your Neighbors! Win A Prize!

Welcome to 2019!

It may be cold outside, but it will be WARM and BUZZING LIKE A BEEHIVE inside The Parlor of White Rock United Methodist Church at our FIRST MEETING OF THE YEAR. Don't miss it!

We set aside the first LFHNA meeting of each year to help everyone in Little Forest Hills learn more about what our committees do for the community. Our goal is to encourage you and all your neighbors to become more connected with the community and more involved with the best neighborhood association: the LFHNA!

Curious about the home-help construction projects the Fix-it-Folks have completed over the past year? Interested in rolling up your sleeves and baking some delicious delights for the newcomers of the neighborhood? Each of our committees will have a table at the meeting, and we'll have committee chairs and super volunteers on hand to answer all your questions about what our groups do for and with the LFH community.

If you are interested in volunteering your time or expertise with one of our committees, please come to this first meeting of the year -- and bring a friend! We'd love to talk to you about the many opportunities to become more involved in our neighborhood -- whether you'd like to speak about sports or chat about cheese and wine! LFH is full of talented, energetic, and friendly folks, and we want to reach out to as many of these folks as possible and get them INVOLVED with our neighborhood association!



Like prizes? We do too! Come to the meeting and get a raffle ticket for an opportunity to win a nice door prize. You can get ANOTHER raffle ticket for each committee table that you visit, which will greatly increase your chances of winning!



A Message From Your Co-Presidents

Happy New Year, Small Sylvan Slopes! I'm not sure where the year went, but it seems like only yesterday that Patrick and I found ourselves with the keys to the city, scratching our heads and wondering how we'd ended up as co-Presidents.

Over the last 12 months we've run a marvelous 4th of July Parade and Picnic, 4 General Meetings, countless mini-meetings and get-

togethers on art, music, and other LFH-fun, held National Night Out, put together a joyous night of Christmas Caroling, and even had a smashing good WOG and Artist Outreach "crossover" event.

We're still waiting to get the Volunteer of the Year plaque back from the engravers, but we wanted to jump the gun and let you know that Celia Naples and Marc Dominus are our 2018 LFH Volunteers of the Year. This was Celia's first year as Chair of our Independence Day celebrations, and despite a compressed time frame for preparations; she did a top-notch job!

Marc stepped up to revitalize the Artist Outreach Committee this year, and he has been a firecracker of a Chair, scheduling meetings with artists and board members, brainstorming and planning art events, and even coordinating a beautifully-painted Artist Outreach truck as a float in our 4th of July Parade. I'm not sure what amazing things to expect from Marc and Celia in 2019, but their enthusiasm is marvelous!

Speaking of amazing volunteers, we'd like to give an BIG thank you to everyone within and without Little Forest Hills who has helped us over the last 12 months! Amy and Vail and the rest of the Board have been very helpful in guiding Patrick and me. Our amazing Committee Chairs are the agents that make sure everything keeps on chugging along -- and that get us perks like free tickets to the Arboretum (thanks, Lauren!)

We've had some amazing raffle items at the meetings this year -- big thanks for the donors at the fall meeting, including our food sponsor, 7-11, who showed up with an assortment of chips and gourmet nuts, plus an entire case of bananas!

Our first meeting of the year will be on Tuesday, January 15th. As in previous years, we'll have all of our committees on display so that you can browse and peruse and sign up to volunteer with us! When you're at the meeting, please take a second to THANK a couple of the committee chairs that make these events possible. The chairs and other volunteers work hard throughout the year, and definitely deserve our praises. Little Forest Hills is a neighborhood bursting with art, energy, and goodwill, so come on down and join the festivities!

Have fun, enjoy life, and stay funky!
Robinson & Patrick
LFHNA Co-Presidents

Save The Dates!

January 15,
April 16,
July 16, &
October 15

LFH General Meeting 7pm

Little Forest Hills Neighborhood General Meeting- Our quarterly meetings are held at 7pm every third Tuesday of January, April, July, and October. Meetings will be held in the Parlor Room of White Rock United Methodist Church- 1450 Old Gate Lane. Enter on Garden/San Saba side.

January 10-13,
February 7-10,
March 7-10, &
April 11-14

Bulky-Trash Set Out Dates (Pick-up starts the following Monday)

Bulky Trash- You are allowed to set your bulky trash out on the second weekend (Thursday-Sunday) of each month. Pick-up starts the following Monday.

May 19

White Rock East Garden Tour and Artisans 10am-5pm

Trashtalkers- Meets the 2nd Saturday of each month

White Rock East Garden Tour and Artisans- The 2019 Garden Tour will be held on Sunday May 19th from 10:00 am until 5:00 pm. The tour will consist of nine gardens, plus the great plant sale at Casa Linda Park.



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The Fix It Folks

By: Linda Calvert

Gathering again and again, our Fix It Folks members show their support of our good cause by pouring themselves into our projects year after year while putting aside their own work, home & family needs to donate countless hours helping LFH elderly & needy residents with minor home repairs.

This team of open-hearted people that willingly give their precious time & energy deserve much appreciation for their efforts, so when you run across any of them please join me in giving thanks for their contributions toward the good will of our spirited community.

Please find the time to join us. We are in need of younger men/women. After a busy day helping someone that hasn't the physical abilities you do, and wishes deeply that they did, will leave you with a sense of pride, I promise. Find us on the back index for contact details.

Photos Provided by Linda Calvert. Top Photo, from left to right: Joe Beaudette, Dave Ramos, and Paul Heinemann. Bottom Photo: Pam Proctor.



LFH Funky Fielders- Fall 2018 Season

By Max Davis

The Funky Fielders, our neighborhood coed softball team, had another fun season in the Fall of 2018. We had the typical large number of rained out games, but managed to rally and complete the season. As usual we ended the season with a team party consisting of food, friends, and fun.

We will return for the 2019 Spring Season, with practice starting in early February. Anyone interested in joining the team should contact Max Davis at (214) 404-6892 or MaxDavis1950@gmail.com.

Nutritious New Year's Cleaning Juice Recipe

By Vail Fassett

Start your New Year off with this alkalizing veggie/fruit blend- it's a special combination developed as a daily blood, lymph, liver, and colon cleanser. Put all the organic ingredients into the blender, puree, and enjoy!

- 1" thick slice of raw beet (or organic frozen sliced beets)
- 1 whole apple, chopped
- 1 whole cucumber, peeled
- 1 handful of fresh greens
- Juice of 2 whole lemons
- Juice of 1 whole lime
- 2 tbsp extra virgin olive oil, cold pressed
- 1/4 cup water

Real Estate Sales in Little Forest Hills for 2018

Provided By: Mike Schmitt- White Rock Real Estate, LLC

Lot sales

High	Low	Average	Average days on market	List to sales price %
294,000	215,000	245,250	45	92.81%

Pre-owned homes

High	Low	Average	Average days on market	List to sales price %
525,000	259,900	339,638	31	98.41%

New built after year 2000

High	Low	Average	Average days on market	List to sales price %
868,000	511,000	679,629	55	98.49%

*This information extrapolated from the North Texas Real Estate Information System and does not include sales not published in that format.

Little Forest Hills Wine-O-Group (WOG)

By Max & Denise Davis

The LFH WOG Team is looking for “Host Homes” in 2019. Each month a host home is selected and neighbors are invited to bring a bottle of wine, plus an appetizer to share. The homeowner selects the date and theme for the event.

If you are interested in hosting, please contact Denise Davis at (713) 894-6340 or email Denise2389@gmail.com.



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Christmas Caroling? 'twas controlled madness!

By Robinson Tryon

For the third year in a row, a large contingent of LFHers filled the streets of the neighborhood with song and celebration. This year, the average age of the carolers was considerably younger than usual, as a cheery horde of children joined in the fun.

As we traveled from house to house, the gaggle of grinning girls and boys made extra sure that even the most soundly sleeping resident was roused from slumber to answer the door. At times, it was more like controlled madness than caroling! With so many kids in our number, our mugs remained dry throughout our travels, but the adults did get some extra-cheerful refreshments when we stopped by the Davis' party.

To make caroling more accessible to those who can't walk as far and kids of all ages, we may add a Saturday caroling session next year. The plan would be to carol in the afternoon on one of the streets with sidewalks, and just go out for about one hour. If you're interested in joining in the fun next year, just email us and we'll put you on the list! LFHNA.President@gmail.com.

First two photos provided by Robinson Tryon. Third photo provided by Kat Benner.



No Time For Napping

By Laura Dang

In the spirit of the holidays season, LFHNA sponsored nearly 20 residents of Autumn Leaves, a seniors living community, to a fun day at the Dallas Arboretum. Sara, the event coordinator at the residence, accompanied these energetic, young and spry retirees who strolled, wheeled and rode the tram throughout the expansive botanical garden. They were delighted to see the exquisite exhibit of the 12 Days of Christmas gazebos, the dramatic Artistry of the Nativity, 500,000 twinkling Christmas lights, and all were serenaded by a live jazz band. It was a mesmerizing and thrilling day to be surrounded in beauty, a sentiment shared by all!



Photo provided by Laura Dang.

St. Bernard of Clairvaux

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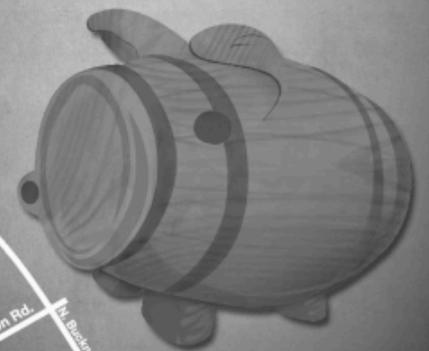
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News You Can Use... In The Hood

A few updates on some of the happenings in and around Little Forest Hills

By: Patrick Blaydes

3G Intersection (Gaston, Garland, and East Grand)-

Three years ago, at the request of our state elected officials, TxDOT began a re-design of the Garland, Gaston and East Grand intersection (3G). The intended purpose was to make the intersection safer for cars, bikes, and pedestrians. An 18-month public engagement process followed with several meetings with community leaders and the public at large. The ultimate design, which public voted on (called the publically preferred design) was a modified T-intersection with pedestrian islands, and better signalization. After members of the public voted on that option, a number of neighbors in Lakewood raised concerns about safety and livability along Gaston and the effect the redesign may have on Gaston. Their opinions were limited to concerns along Gaston, not of those along East Grand or Garland.

After that public pressure, TxDOT held a public meeting this past November to present the publically preferred plan and hear comments. In a heated meeting with several hundred attendees, community members voiced their opinions. Some were in favor of the modified T option, some were in opposition, and some voiced mixed opinions. TxDOT is currently reviewing those comments to determine whether or not to move forward with the redesign of the intersection. Our Council Member, Mark Clayton, was at the meeting. He and council member Kingston mentioned a potential compromise on a redesign to reflect the concerns of those in Lakewood. That re-design has not been made public.

Neighborhood leaders from Little Forest Hills, Forest Hills, Casa Linda, Casa View, Lake Gardens, and other surrounding neighborhoods have been meeting throughout the process to discuss the redesign. In short, our collective opinion is that the intersection needs be designed in an equitable manner to improve the livability of all communities involved and not just to one neighborhood. We've voiced those opinions at the TxDOT meeting and elsewhere and will continue to work with TxDOT, the City, and others within the greater East Dallas community on any possible modifications to the publically preferred modified T option.

Casa Linda Plaza- The new property owners are making improvements to the plaza. Part of those improvements included tearing down 5 old growth cedar elms to redo the parking lot and sidewalks. A number of people took issue with the removal of the trees. Community leaders from the area, including Little Forest Hills, met with the new owners. Though we were not able to save those specific trees, the new owners agreed to plant larger replacement trees than they initially intended, promised to revive the Christmas Tree Lighting, and promised to work with the community on future improvements. So far the new larger replacement trees have been planted, the Christmas tree lighting is back, and they will be bringing new proposed improvements before the community as they happen.

Pavilion at Casa Linda Park- The most recent bond package also included funding for a new pavilion at Casa Linda Park. There are no plans as yet for the new pavilion but as the city starts its bond projects they will coordinate with the community for their input on the design.

Lakeland Improvements- The City has allocated a small amount of bond funding for improvements along Ferguson road from Lakeland to Oates. A conversation has been facilitated by the Ferguson Road Initiative about those improvements. With the funding being limited, the improvements will likely be limited to improvements in the streetscape, such as benches, lighting stamped concrete, and landscaping, at some intersections and along Ferguson.

Lakeland Bridge Improvements- The replacement of the two bridges on Lakeland is nearly complete, and you should be able to use Lakeland to travel to Ferguson and beyond shortly.

Highland Road Improvements- As soon as the Lakeland Bridge replacements are finalized, the City will begin work on Highland between Ferguson and the train tracks. The City worked with the community and Ferguson Road Initiative to develop the plans, which will replace the 1930's era road with a new road, bike lanes, on-street parking, and bio-swells for floodwater. Expect some road closures in 2019 with the construction.

White Rock Community Church- Two years ago, a developer had the former White Rock Community Church property (on Garland Rd next to the Fire Station) under contract. Their intent was to bulldoze the entire site and build an eight story tall apartment building with about 400 units. A few neighborhood leaders protested the plans citing concerns about historic and tree preservation, the precedence this type of development next to the lake would set, and an overall concern about what type of development at this site would benefit the community as opposed to merely the developer. Our council member and plan commissioner sided with the community and voted those plans down.

Recently, a new developer put the property under contract. But unlike the previous developer, the new developer has been working on a plan with community leaders from Little Forest Hills, Forest Hills, Casa Linda, and Casa View. Those plans now include saving the chapel, the old growth trees, and a courtyard out front for a restaurant and outdoor patio. The remainder of the site and the parking lot behind the church will be developed as 4 story apartments with about 200 units. Most leaders have seen this as a good compromise between developing a cool amenity for the community and meeting the developer's needs to produce a profitable

New Neighborhood Overlay Possibilities-

Several years ago Little Forest Hills went through a Conservation District vote regarding regulations meant to preserve some qualities of the neighborhood. In short, that vote and build up to the vote was...contentious. However in the years since then, the City has created new options available for neighborhoods interested in self-determination. These new options are not as rigid as the conservation district and may allow Little Forest Hills to easily preserve certain aspect of our community; like our old growth trees, unique architecture of the neighborhood, and housing affordability. They are listed below. If you have additional questions or want to be involved in the process, contact neighborhood leadership.

Homestead Preservation Overlay – This overlay is meant to preserve housing affordability in areas with rapidly rising property values without adversely affecting those property values. Simply put, as property values rise and property taxes rise with them, a portion of the additional property tax dollars would go to programs within the neighborhood to help with housing affordability. These programs could include property tax vouchers for senior citizens, artists, teachers, and others with modest income in the neighborhood, subsidies to homeowner to build and rent ADUs, home repairs for seniors or other in need of assistance, and more.

“Anti-McMansion” or Permeable Surface/Flooding Overlay- One common concern amongst Little Forest Hills residents is the practice of tearing down older smaller homes and replacing them with one-story houses that maximum the allowable square footage and non-permeable surface on a lot (concrete and roofs). The so-called anti-mcmansion, or permeable surface overlay would allow for existing homes to be altered, added to, and customized as they currently are. But if the existing home is torn down, the new house would be subject to different requirements that would limit how much of the lot can be covered with roofs or concrete.

Continued on next page...

Neighborhood Forest Overlay– Neighborhood forest overlay allows neighborhood to preserve and protect older large growth trees like Pecans, Oaks, Cedars, etc. The overlay would require that home builders who tear down the older protected trees to replant an equivalent caliper inch trees (one older growth tree may need four newer younger trees) or pay a fee that would go into a fund to replant trees within the neighborhood or community at large.

Accessory Dwelling Units Overlay (ADU) - an ADU is a technical term for garage apartments, granny flats, mother-in-law suites, etc. Currently ADUs are illegal (including LFH) unless a special variance is approved by the officious sounding the Zoning Board of Adjustment. The overlay would allow homeowners to build these without paying hefty fees to get approval from the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Grab the Trash- Keep our Lake Looking Pristine!

By Robinson Tryon

The Trashtalkers had a great quarter picking up trash and recycling at White Rock Lake. We removed over twenty bags of plastic bottles, old lumber, pallets, shoes, dock parts, and other flotsam that litters the shore of our Adopt-a-Shoreline area.

If you've got a few free hours in 2019, we'd love to have you join us! You can join us on the 2nd Saturday of each month, or just sign up for a single Saturday. We spend about an hour out at the lake each time, and make a BIG difference as we beautify the lake for humans and make it a more hospitable home for all the fowl and fauna.

Saturday signups are here: <http://bit.ly/2SHL5dR> or email us at LFHTrashtalkers@gmail.com.

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Thank you for your support!
 Stacy Craig - Advertising Chair
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Friendly Dog Collars: Color Coded Dog Awareness

Putting Meaning in Dog Collars

By Vail Fassett

How often does it happen that you and your dog are enjoying a nice walk, obeying leash laws and all of the sudden an unleashed dog comes barreling at you out of nowhere? Sometimes it happens to me three or four times per walk depending on the neighborhood we are walking in. Usually, the owner will come ambling along with the old “don’t worry, he’s friendly” explanation and most of the time, nobody gets nippy.

But their dog is only half of the equation isn’t it? Your dog could be a shy dog, an anxious dog, a leash aggressive dog, a blind or deaf dog, or a dog recovering from PTSD. There is nothing wrong with having a dog that possesses any of these traits.

Jessica Dolce, an animal advocate, started a movement called DINOS (Dogs in need of space). She advises owners to tie a yellow ribbon on their dog’s leash and to spread the word so that others may do the same and the meaning would catch on. DINOS are good dogs, they just don’t appreciate other, unknown dogs running up to them for some unsolicited face to face time.

An orange ribbon means that the dog is friendly towards people but not towards other dogs. A green ribbon means that your dog is very approachable and does not have any anxiety about unsolicited interaction with other people or dogs. A company called Friendly Dog Collars has taken this idea a step further and made these great harnesses, collars and leashes that clearly spell out your dog’s temperament.

These collars can provide an extra safeguard against incidents and attacks but most importantly, they can help other dog owners realize that though their dog may be (in their eyes) a social butterfly who loves everyone, it is irresponsible to let them run around uncontrolled. For more information on how to get yours, visit www.FriendlyDogCollars.com.

Let’s Put The “Forest” Back Into Little Forest Hills!

LFH Reforestation Opportunity through “Branch Out Dallas”

By Vail Fassett

Mature trees help conserve soil, water, and decrease erosion. Their dense foliage absorbs sound and provides privacy as well as visual buffers to unattractive views. Evergreens can block strong winter winds. Trees beautify our neighborhoods through foliage, flowers, and form, clean the air by removing CO2 emissions, make our streets and yards cooler in the summer, and *enhance property values*. So it would be prudent to avoid cutting down your mature trees, but if you must do so, please consider planting a new tree.

Thank you to everyone who participated in The City of Dallas’s Branch Out Dallas program! The program was designed to reduce air pollution, cool neighborhoods, and combat climate change through planting trees. This neighborhood program will be providing those who applied by the January 11th deadline with a free 5-gallon drought-tolerant tree in April!

If you have recently lost a tree in your yard but missed the deadline for this program, please contact Amy or Vail at (972) 742-3580 or at LFHNeighborhood@swbell.net and ask if there are any available trees in our LFH Greenhouse!



Little Forest Hills Membership Form

Annual membership runs January through December. Annual Dues are \$20.00 per household & \$5.00 for seniors. Make checks payable to LFHNA or go to our website any pay online: LittleForestHills.com.

This is a: Renewal Membership New Membership

Member Name

Member Address

Member Email Address

Member Phone Number and Type: Work Cell Home

If Member household includes a spouse/partner/etc., please include their information above as well.

I am / We are interested in volunteering for the following committee(s) or goals:

Ongoing Neighbor Participation:

- Alex Sanger Elementary
- Casa Linda Park
- Fix It Folks Volunteer Crew
- LFH Animal Alert
- LFH Funky Fielders Baseball Team
- LFH Website
- Local Artist Outreach
- Newsletter Distribution
- Volunteers in Patrol/ Crime Watch
- Welcoming Newcomers Committee

- White Rock Lake Shoreline Cleanup/ Median Cleanup

Events:

- 4th of July Parade Committee
 - Funky 4K Run Committee
 - Garage Sale Committee
 - Garden Tour Committee
 - LFH Holidays Committee
 - National Night Out Committee
-

**Please return this completed form and payment to:
LFHNA, c/o Treasurer, Brenda Sutherland, 8806 San Leandro, Dallas, TX 75218.**

Friendly reminder to renew your Little Forest Hills Neighborhood Association Membership!

This page was left blank intentionally. Feel free to rip this page out of the newsletter so that you can fill out the Membership form on the opposite side and bring it to the next meeting!

Thank you for your continued support!

Be Prepared! 5 Simple Things You Should Do Today!

Step #6: Register on Voly.org & get a background check (15 min) (\$0)

By Robinson Tryon

I promised you 5 tips to help your household, so here's a bonus one to get you prepared to help others.

After a large natural disaster, citizens in nearby areas become increasingly interested in volunteering. After Hurricane Harvey, Dallas saw a great outpouring of financial and physical donations, as well a desire to distribute supplies, clean up flooded homes, and to minister to evacuees directly by serving food or staffing a shelter.

Getting trained by the Red Cross, CERT, or ARRL can give you medical, search & rescue, and radio skills that are vital in emergencies. The skills you learn might even save your own life one day! But training isn't something simple that you can do in just a few minutes right now.

What you can do right now is sign up on www.voly.org and request a background check. Voly serves as a hub, connecting volunteers with volunteer organizations. By requesting a background check, Voly will be able to vouch for you so that you can serve in more sensitive roles at a shelter or dealing with personal data.

Signing up for Voly is free, and the background check is free as well. If you spend a couple of minutes today, you'll be prepared for the future.

Stay safe, stay alert, and stay funky, Little Forest Hills!



Have Suggestions for our Newsletters?

Let us know!!

Did you know that YOU can submit an article for our newsletters? Most people don't!

We want to publish articles about things you want to read and we realize that we can't cover all the interesting topics going on in and around our neighborhood by ourselves. That's where you come in.

We would love to hear from you! An article does not have to be any specific length. It's completely up to you! Not much of a writer? No worries! Let us know some of the topics you would like to see in future issues.

If you have any other suggestions regarding our newsletters, we want to hear that too. Feel free to email Sarah at lfhnewsletter@gmail.com with any questions, comments, or suggestions.

Want Little Forest Hills Updates In Between Your Newsletter Distributions?

Follow us on our social media sights for the current on goings of the hood. We are looking to expand the content on our social media sights over the course of 2019. We encourage you to engage with us on all social media platforms- tag us in your LFH relevant pictures, let us know about surrounding neighborhood events, or just give us a shout out! Also, if you are interested in helping us or have any ideas on ways to help us grow, please feel free to reach out to us!



Facebook: LFH – Little Forest Hills Neighborhood Assoc.



Instagram: @LittleForestHills



Twitter: @LFHDallas



Website: www.LittleForestHills.com

2019 LFH Officers & Committee Chairs

Co-Presidents

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Patrick Blaydes
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lfhna.president@gmail.com

Vice President/Membership

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lfhmembership@gmail.com

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