

WINTER 2020

# FAIRMOUNT

# 2020 & Love

## **Yourself**

Best New Year's  
Resolution: Love Yourself,  
Get Out and Get Moving

## **Your Neighbor**

October and December  
Yard of the Month  
Plus Festivus Celebration

## **Your Community**

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in the neighborhood:  
Southside Preservation Hall

A PUBLICATION OF THE FAIRMOUNT NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

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**PRESIDENT'S LETTER**

Happy New Year!

What an exciting end of 2019 we had. November featured a meeting to pass our 2020 budget (which we did) and hear Fairmount's own Richard Riccetti present the proposed Hemphill Corridor Task Force guidelines. December featured our most successful Festivus to-date (a round of applause to Kelly Bowden and Lori Gallagher for their work as co-chairs), Santa in the Park (thank you to our Betty Spitzberg and Brian Holland for spearheading that holiday favorite), and an absolutely joyous Holiday Party (a job well done by Choke and another thank you to Bob Fain and Burgundy's Local for the chili).

All of these things take tons of hours of volunteer time, planning, and organization, and are all a part of what make Fairmount such a special place to live. Which brings us to our current membership drive. To take advantage of a full year of membership, make sure that you've renewed (or joined for the first time) by January 31. Being a part of the association is more than just a financial contribution to help fund some of the amazing things mentioned above, it's your first step to staying more in the loop and hearing about opportunities to get involved, meeting your neighbors, and attending events all year-round.

It also is how you help to secure your voice in what happens in and around your neighborhood. For example, during our January General Membership meeting (Jan 28), we will be voting on whether to authorizing letters of support for a new affordable housing development as well as the final versions of the proposed Hemphill Design Guidelines and Standards. Talk about making your voice heard on an impactful, local level! Whether it's working through ways to best enable welcoming new neighbors through a new development, or being a part of the long-term revitalization of a major thoroughfare in our city (Hemphill), January brings an opportunity to leave a lasting impact on our neighborhood and beyond. But, to be eligible to vote, you will need to make sure of your membership status. Those who were members in 2019 will still be eligible for voting at the January 28 meeting, but those who need to join beforehand will need to make sure to do so at least 10 days in advance, and can do that at [historicfairmount.com](http://historicfairmount.com). We will also be presenting an opportunity for you to renew/join that night. I'm looking forward to an exciting 2020 here in Fairmount!

Wishing you health and happiness in the new year,  
David Weuste, Fairmount Neighborhood Association Board President

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[www.historicfairmount.com](http://www.historicfairmount.com)

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[www.facebook.com/historicfairmount](https://www.facebook.com/historicfairmount)

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[serena@bytemap.net](mailto:serena@bytemap.net)  
817-825-3886

# JOIN FAIRMOUNT IN 2020

It's time to renew your Fairmount Neighborhood Association membership. Sign up at [www.historicfairmount.com](http://www.historicfairmount.com). Membership is from January to January, so be sure to sign up now to enjoy the whole year of benefits. Individual membership is \$20 and family or business membership is \$25.

**As a FNA member, you will enjoy:**

- FNA voting privileges.
- Priority, guidance and quick tip access for all things "historic guidelines" from our Preservation Team.
- Complimentary admission to enjoy food, beverage and camaraderie at our 8+ monthly social events AND our December holiday party.
- Connecting with neighbors through monthly socials, holiday parties, events, parades, a softball team, and more.

**The FNA relies on its membership to:**

- Raise money for improvements such as adding and maintaining historic street lights and signs.
- Support the feral cat trap & release programs of our neighborhood pet rescues.
- Maintain Fairmount Park and Allen Green Space.
- Provide liability coverage for the Community Garden and neighborhood parades and events.
- Fund small ongoing needs of our neighborhood K-12 schools.

Monthly FNA meetings are held the 4th Monday of each month from 7-8pm at Southside Preservation Hall, 1519 Lipscomb Street.

Memberships can also be mailed to:  
Fairmount Neighborhood Association  
PO Box 12348  
Fort Worth, TX 76110

**BULLETIN BOARD NEWS**



**Next FNA Meeting**

January 27th @ 7:00 p.m.  
February 24th @ 7:00 p.m.  
March 23rd @ 7:00 p.m.

Our monthly general membership meetings are the fourth Monday at 7:00 p.m. at Southside Preservation Hall located at 1519 Lipscomb St. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**Neighborhood Police Officer**

Officer Sergio L. Guadarrama  
817-944-1316

Fort Worth Police Non Emergency  
817-335-4222

**Code Enforcement**

Officer Fernando Molinar  
817-879-4374

**Bulk Trash** is the fourth Monday of the month. Items can be placed out the Friday before.

**Drug Take Back** There are three

drug take-back kiosks in Fort Worth available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The closest one to Fairmount is at the UNT Health Science Center, 3600 Mattison Ave. The other two locations are Walgreens at 6205 Westcreek Dr. and Walgreens at 4520 Western Center Blvd. [FortWorthTexas.gov/solidwaste/medicalwaste](http://FortWorthTexas.gov/solidwaste/medicalwaste)

**myFtWorth App**

Fort Worth has an App to report issues such as graffiti. Download the myFtWorth in the Apple App Store or in the Android Marketplace. Users can include a photo and GPS location that will get automatically routed to the correct department. Users can also opt in to receive notifications and we will let you know when your request has been completed.

**Forestry Section** will prune or remove city-owned trees that pose a high risk to people or property. Forestry may also prune privately-owned

trees that could endanger the public; for example, a broken tree branch that blocks a city sidewalk.

To request tree work or report a tree hazard on city-owned property, call the Forestry Section at 817-392-5738.

For street tree emergencies on weekends, holidays and after 4 p.m. on weekdays, contact the Transportation & Public Works Department at 817-392-8100.

**Garbage Info/Illegal Dumping**

817-392-1234

**Potholes & Street Light Outage**

817-392-8100

**Have a talent** like writing, editing, photography, art, sales and want to be a contributor to the FNA newsletter?

Email Serena Keeler at [newsletter@historicfairmount.com](mailto:newsletter@historicfairmount.com) or [serena@bytemap.net](mailto:serena@bytemap.net) or text/call 817-825-3886.

FAIRMOUNT  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION

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PALAVER

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*Join us at the  
Community Library  
1310 W. Allen Ave.*

*Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.  
January 29th, February 26th,  
and March 25th*

**INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE**

**The 5th Avenue Project**

In the fall, the city anticipated that concrete work (curbs, sidewalks, and driveway aprons) would begin. However, there was a concern regarding the quality of work performed on another project done by the contractor. The city decided not to use this contractor on this project. The project was reprogrammed and bid as a single contract and awarded to a different vendor. The chosen vendor has a very good reputation and notices will be distributed to all stakeholders regarding the start date for construction. The city is looking forward to starting this project and appreciates the neighborhoods understanding on the delay. The street is part of the upcoming Downtown Marathon route and construction will be micro managed in order to have the street clear from construction during that weekend, February 28, 2020 – March 1, 2020. If you have any further questions, please contact, Juan Pablo De La Cruz, Transportation and Public Work Department, 817.392.6747.



# Halloween Contest Winners

Photographs by Stacy Luecker



October's Yard of the Month winners are the Avinas of 2244 Fairmount, who purchased the home in 2001. They knew they wanted to live in Fairmount. Cindy's husband grew up on College Ave and their children went to Daggett Montessori, with prior owners of 2244, the Ploetz family. While Mrs. Avina was told the home was built in 1917, the Tarrant county deed card gives an earlier date of 1908. The home was originally built as a single story, but by 1933, a second story was added, for a total of 12 rooms. The first owner, Mrs. Carl E Krog, lived at 2920 Hemphill (now Supermercado Monterey #6), and rented out the home. Mrs. Krog's daughter-in-law, Frankie May Krog, (b.1906) administered it with her daughters for decades. The deed card contains an unusual detail about their business, stating that "George Beggs collects rent" for the Krogs. In both the 1930 and 1940 US government census, candy salesman James P Hodges (b.1899) was listed as the Krog's only renter, though with 2 stories and 12 rooms, it is likely that others lived there during the Great Depression. 2244 was a duplex when the Avinas purchased it, and they turned it back into a single-family home. Cindy reports, "It was all yellow when we got it and needed to be painted," so she "poured through

**Above: The Avinas dress as witches every year to greet trick or treaters in their haunted front yard on Fairmount Ave.**

**Below left: Cameron and Samantha Harris' brontosaurus is a man for all seasons, and they dress him for every holiday. Here he pulls the grim reaper and a recently departed soul to the grave yard.**

**Below right: the Mason's home showcased a looming pumpkin head menace who was sure to spook all who visited.**

books trying to decide on the colors" before landing on the current French blue with Roycroft Rookwood Red window trim. The home is a Craftsman style, with distinctive "matchstick" style vented gables and brick columns that are echoed in the Worley's house at 2008 Fairmount.

The Avinas have participated in every Fairmount Halloween since 2001. This year their theme for Halloween was Ghosts. Cindy reports, "I made the ghosts last year out of styrofoam, wood, and cheesecloth. Some of the items came from Berry Good buys, too. Every year, I add something new. This year we hung the guidelines for the ghost to float on." The Avinas favorite part of Halloween in Fairmount is all the kids and being outside with her kids and grandkids. She and her daughter dress up as witches each year to give away candy.

When the Avina's moved in 18 years ago, they had a full lawn and two young oaks in the parkway. Alas, "as the oaks grew, the grass did not." Cindy had to completely redo her front yard to account for the changing PH and light conditions, as it had become, she reports, "a dust bowl." She added Asian jasmine (*Trachelospermum asiaticum*), a spreading, viney groundcover, to the front lawn, but even that hardy import struggled until she put in a DIY drip system as "an in-ground system wasn't in my budget." The drip lines helped the Asian jasmine immensely, and it's now thriving. In 2019, Cindy created the spiral garden, which she filled with black-foot daisy and lavender, and the gravel paths. Cindy has mostly perennials that she buys at Mike's Garden Center and Lowe's clearance section. She also collects plants, bulbs, and rhizomes from neighbors that are giving things away, including her paperwhites (*Narcissus ziva*), and Stella d'oro day lilies.



**Honorable mention winner, 1412 7th, Kelci Cox's wee pink cottage she purchased in 2017 already looked like a sweet candy box, but she transformed it into a lure for Hansel and Gretel, purportedly in "just two hours" using her extensive creativity and existing stash of arts and crafts materials. Kelci also repurposed the light-up pathway and candy elements when decorating Safe Haven for Fairmount Festivus.**



# Festivus Holiday Decorations

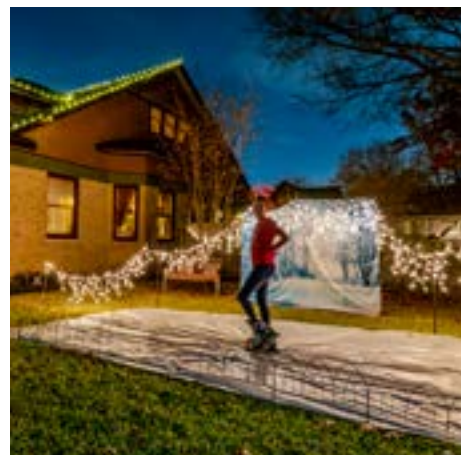
Photographs by Stacy Luecker



For the last 5 years, Fairmount has enjoyed its self-proclaimed holiday. Neighbor, Brandon Garrett started this tradition when he was the FNA Promotions Director. Urban lore reports, Stacy Luecker, Brandon and wife Christa came up with calling this new holiday tradition, Festivus. A few years ago, Brandon and Christa could no longer be our fearless Festivus leaders and Festivus almost got canceled. It was late in November. Some recall it being 2018 but the facts are fuzzy. But it was November and Festivus was about to be canceled. Luckily, Lori Gallagher and Kelly Bowden were at Girls Night Out where this sad news was spreading. Rumor has it Lori pulled out a legal pad and started asking for volunteers. By the end of the night she



Above: Dancing trees could be seen on the 1400 block of 6th Avenue. Yes, you read that right, even the trees in Fairmount dance on Festivus. Left: there may not be much snow and ice in Texas, but that did not stop homeowners from creating their own ice rink on the 2000 block of 6th Avenue. Above top right: this two story home on the 1800 block of Fairmount Avenue, shined bright as a Candy Cane landscape for all to see. Photographs by Stacy Luecker.



had a list of people, but they all seemed to vanished, except for one. That one being, Kelly Bowden. And thanks to Lori and Kelly, Festivus lived on.

This year Festivus started at One Safe Place. It was the perfect partnership. They offered use of their space for free and we asked guest to bring toy donations for the families at One Safe Place. There was plenty of parking and space to roll in 6 tour buses. Inside Mr. and Mrs. Claus greeted guest for pictures and accepted donated toy gifts. There were drinks, food, vendors, crafts to enjoy while waiting for the bus tour to begin. Timed tickets were used this year so there was no need for people to wait in long lines to get on the buses.

Guest that brought toy donations, received a discount on their ticket. The donations went to One Safe Place. It is such a special set up. Toy donations are placed in a mock store at One Safe Place. Mothers are given three tickets per child to come to the store and choose one stuffed animal, toy, and book per child that they'd like to purchase for their children using their tickets.



Above: Ballerina dances outside on this Nutcracker themed house on the 1300 block of 6th Avenue. Far left: lights and garlands line this homes wrought iron fence. Left: when you need to go, just ask Snoopy standing beside this festive portapotty. Below: Santa is coming to town, at this show stopper home on Fairmount Avenue. Photographs by Stacy Luecker.



With 6 buses and 8 sponsors, this year there were more buses and more sponsors. Each bus had its own decorations and themes done by the different sponsors. Some even handed out free swag and coupons. It has become a friendly competition amongst the sponsors to have the 'best' bus. Rumor has it, that NSI's bus was phenomenal this year. The Festivus bus sponsors were Rosen House Inn, Burt Ladner Real Estate, Fort Worth Focused Realty, Tracey Amaya of Remax Realtor, Grand Crue, Kent and Co, Near Southside Incorporated, and Cat City (who has sponsored every year!)

Now here is the part that makes Festivus in Fairmount so special and successful-

# Festivus Holiday Decorations

Photographs by Stacy Luecker

the decorations! Without the neighborhood's creativity, there would be no Festivus. The decorated houses are the stars of the event. Many of the houses on tour had living humans as part of the decorations. This seems to be a uniquely Fairmount tradition. Dancing trees, ballerinas, happy campers fishing, life size Elf on a Shelf, 3-D house decorations with 3-D glasses, campfires, bears, to name just a few things that could be seen on the tour. Neighbors taking part in the personal scenes they set up, really made the night come alive and magical. Everyone's creativity and participation in the event, made it a special evening.

There were 432 tickets available and over 400 were sold. This was the biggest year! There were more sponsors and donations. There was a bigger and longer route thanks to all the great decorated houses to choose from. The t-shirts sold out. Over \$4000 was raised for the neighborhood. What a night!

The entire neighborhood would like to thank Lori and Kelly for making this event so special. We can only imagine what goes into planning and putting on an event like this. We would also like to thank all the houses on tour and off tour who decorated and made our neighborhood shine this Festivus. A special thank you to all who volunteered to help make Festivus such an amazing event.

Plans are already being made for next year. So mark your calendars for the first Friday in December and get those creative decorations up! And of course, volunteer.

Serena Keeler sat with Kelly and Lori to write this recap of the evening. Kelly Bowden is long time Fairmount resident and owns and runs the Rosen House B&B. Lori Gallagher is long time Fairmount resident and realtor at Burt Ladner.



Top: this home on the 1900 block of 6th lit up the night with long strands of lights above the front lawn. Middle: bright colored red and green lights light up this house on the 1400 block of 6th Avenue. Bottom: this home on Alston used a popular meme that highlighted the fact that the cats are in charge in Fairmount, whether we like it or not.



# December Yard of the Month

Photographs by Stacy Luecker



Top Right: First place winners Carie Farwell and Timothy Taggart at 1510 Fairmount were awarded a wine tasting graciously provided by the Rosen House Inn. Their green Craftsman bungalow, enclosed by an iron fence, featured a 20-foot tree made entirely of green lights, as well as lit-up bicycle and Santa's sleigh in the parkway. Bottom left: Second place winners Lottie and Clinton Fowler at 1916 5th Ave were awarded two tickets to the Fairmount Supper

Club's challah-making class on Jan. 31. Their classic bungalow with attached carport featured an homage to the 1965 Peanuts Christmas special, with an exasperated Charlie Brown tangled in lights while Snoopy relaxes next to his decorated dog house. Bottom Right: Third place winners Robert and Kimberly Paquette of 1312 5th Ave received a Calloway's Nursery gift card. Their Victorian 2-story showcased a cool palette of white lights encircling the columns, as well as the lining the fence and roofline.

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# Best

## – New Year's – RESOLUTION

2020

By Frances Look and Serena Keeler

Start the new decade off with trying out a new activity and connecting with friends and neighbors. Below are some local ideas to help us all get moving. Here is to all our health in 2020.

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child MOM APPROVED 2019

1618 5th Avenue Fort. Worth, TX 76107  
innerlightchirofwa.com

### Yoga

By Frances Look RYT200 and 26 year yogini...

Is yoga in your resolutions list for 2020? If so, we are so lucky to have so many GREAT yoga studios close to Fairmount.

But- what IS Yoga?

On the surface, yoga can be merely perceived as exercise however, the philosophy and spirituality behind yoga goes much deeper. It's not just the handstands, pretzel poses or doing 108 down dogs.

The Yoga system has been taught to help purify the body and mind for over 5000 years, give or take a few. The system includes asanas (postures) that help you to become healthier, flexible, release tension, and burn toxins to experience peace, calmness, relaxation, and clarity. Some practitioners say yoga can burn bad karma and awaken the soul. Count me IN! Burn karma burn! Let's have a bonfire!

Along with postures, practices include breathing techniques, concentration and meditation. We are

all on the "Mindfulness" bandwagon now- along with kale.

WARNING! the side effect is usually one of those cute "yoga booties".

Namaste, Sat Nam and a great big OHM- MMMMMMMMMM to you and yours. Hope to see you on the mat in 2020!

A listing of a few of the yoga studios within 2 miles of Fairmount. Class descriptions & booking are online.

**Elemental Yoga**  
714 W Magnolia Ave

817-476-0632  
elementalyogatherapy.com

**Indra's Grace**  
620 S Jennings Ave  
682-803-0727  
indrasgrace.com

**Raja Yoga**  
483 Forest Park Blvd  
682-710-2225  
rajayogafortworth.com

**Soul Sweat Hot Yoga**  
1217 8th Ave #201  
soulsweatyoga.com

**Urban Yoga**  
1706 8th Ave  
817-908-3569  
urbanyogafw.com



**Dance**

**Southside Preservation Hall**

1519 Lipscomb Street  
Fort Worth, TX 76104  
southsidepreservation.com

Southside Preservation Hall is a neighborhood favorite. Swing dance lessons are offered Tuesday evenings from 8:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. The cost is \$5.00 and one does not need a dance partner. The beginner dance lesson starts at 8:00 and the advanced lesson starts at 9:00. After the lessons are over, it is open dancing for the rest of the evening until 11:30 p.m. Free chocolate chip cookies are served!

Once a month, there is live dance music with Buddy's Big Band night. Come join in the fun with live music all night long. Bring the whole family for this fantastic affair. The doors open at 7:30 p.m. Soft drinks are available for \$1.00 each and for anything stronger bring your own adult beverage. Prizes for Best Attire! Check the website for updates on the next big night.

**Jazzercise**

2924 Cleburne Road  
Fort Worth, TX 76110  
817-521-7444  
www.jazzercise.com/location/jazzercise-fort-worth-fitness-center

Started by long time Fairmount resident, Jacqueline Bender, the Jazzercise Fort Worth Fitness Center offers group fitness classes for all levels. Jacqueline thrives on bringing people together, making them feel welcomed, and creating an uplifting and supportive environment. There are several classes and instructors a day to choose from. The classes incorporate cardio dance moves with strength training for the ultimate full-body workout. Prepare to sweat and have fun while dancing to great music. Babysitting is available but requires advanced reservations.

**Arts Fifth Avenue / A5A**

1628 5th Avenue  
Fort Worth, TX 76104  
817-923-9500  
www.artsfifthavenue.org

Arts Fifth Avenue is our eclectic neighborhood visual and performing arts

center. Located at the corner of 5th Avenue and West Allen Avenue, it offers a variety of classes for ages 4 years to adult. This neighborhood jewel opened its doors in 2001. A5A is known for its focus on tap dance. Founder, Gracey Tune's vision is to give a platform for tap dance, which has a rich history in our country and is entwined with jazz and

dancing, you can learn a few basics in a FREE introductory class. No shoes? No problem. They have shoes to loan. This class is FREE but you do need call and reserve your spot. Check the website for the next introductory class to Tap. One can also find classes in ballroom dance, burlesque, yoga and meditation, children's introduction to



*Above left: Buddy's Big Band swing dance night at Southside Preservation Hall. Above: Tap dancers enjoying the outdoor stage at Arts 5th Ave. Right: the new Victory Forest Community Center inviting exterior. Far right: Jazzercisers on the move at Jacqueline Bender's Fort Worth Jazzercise. For photograph credits please visit websites.*

theater. Gracey has made sure this uniquely American dance form is not forgotten but instead celebrated and relevant today and into the future.

A5A is proud to offer tap classes taught by world renowned instructors. They offer classes for students of all ages and levels. Classes are offered from September through May culminating with a celebration of National Tap Dance Day with a special performance by students, instructors and special guests artists. If you want to try your feet at tap

dance, music and voice, Children's theater, homeschool, and private lessons. One can also enjoy productions in theatre, music, art exhibitions, dance concerts and much more.

A5A also offer yoga for Adults with JULIE VITEK on Wednesday 7-8 pm \$10 Drop-In, \$30 per month. This is a very welcoming class suited for all levels and everyBODY. You will enjoy a slow moving practice while learning how to connect mind and body using a variety of different postures (asanas) and breath exer-

cises (pranayama). "Yoga, a way to live, breathe, and connect!"

A5A is proud to offer a FREE weekly class in Vocal Chorus directed by Peggy Bott Kirby. A group of people who just love to sing for the joy of singing. No prior knowledge or reading of music is required. There are opportunities to perform (if you wish) in outreach programs to the community. Thursdays, Vocal Chorus Teen & Adult, 5:30-7 pm. FREE

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**Anytime Fitness**

1714 8th Ave  
Fort Worth, TX 76110  
817-207-0900

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**Japanese Classical Dance**

Yamagata Kaikan  
3608 Park Lake Drive, 76133

This group meets every Monday, 11am-1pm, at the Yamagata Center. Contact Teruko Greene at 817-294-2224 for information.

**Gyms**

**Fort Worth Strong**

1506 West Magnolia Ave  
817-874-3917  
www.ftwstrong.com

Offers a "No-Sweat" intro. Meet with a coach to discuss a path that best suits

professional staff trained to help you along your fitness journey, no matter how much support you need. Membership includes a free, no-pressure fitness consultation, global access to more than 3,000 gyms, and always open 24/7 convenience. Membership includes classes such as morning yoga, strength foundation, and warriors balance for 50+. Personal trainers available. First ½ hour of fitness consult and ½ hour of training is free.

Memberships start at \$39 per month with a free week trial. \$10 first day pass and

\$5 after for day passes. Blue Zone members receive 20% off membership. Silver Sneakers program offers gym membership that qualify for reimbursement through insurance for certain age groups.



**D Method Pilates**

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www.dmethod.com

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**The Performance Lab**

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theperformancelabfortworth.com

A faith-centered, positive, hard working, team atmosphere where you feel encouraged to become the best version of yourself regardless of your fitness level. Whether you want to lose weight, increase strength, improve your flexibility and balance, compete at the highest level, or get back in shape, their professional staff will meet you where you're at in your fitness journey.

**Cross Fit Westwood**

608 S Jennings Ave.  
crossfitwestwood.com

Monthly Membership Unlimited for \$175/month. Discount Rate of \$135/month for students, teach-

ers, first responders, active & retired military, health care professionals, family additions, and Pogue employee discounts.

**Fire Station Community Center**

1601 Lipscomb St.  
817-392-2240

Monday – Thursday, 11 a.m.-8 p.m.  
Friday, 2-6 p.m.  
Saturday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

The Fire Station Community Center was originally a fully operational fire station before it became a community facility in the mid-1970's. Located inside the Fairmount neighborhood, the center now hosts after-school programs, athletic events, and a variety of classes for both youth and adults. Membership cost for year is adult \$30, child \$20, senior \$15, and family \$75. Stop by or call for more information.





the downtown Trinity Trails. To get there from the neighborhood, drive north on S Henderson (turns into hwy 199) to Roberts Cut Off Rd. Without traffic, it is about a 15 minute drive.

There are plenty of tracks in area. Daggett Middle School in the middle of the neighborhood is the most convenient. Area high schools also have

Offers a run training club called Join the Herd.

**Cowtown Marathon**  
cowtownmarathon.org  
Cowtown marathon happens every February and runs right through Fairmount on 5th Avenue by the park. This year's run is the last weekend in February. The run offers a few different run lengths or if you just like to get out and

**Victory Forest Community Center**

3427 Hemphill St.  
817-392-8200  
fortworthtexas.gov/victory-forestcc

Monday – Thursday,  
6 a.m.-9 p.m.  
Friday, 9 a.m.-7 p.m.  
Saturday, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Sunday, 1-5 p.m.

Victory Forest is Fort Worth's newest community center. Recreational programming offered to all ages — from art to Zumba. This premier facility includes a 2,000-square-foot fitness room complete with cardio, strength equipment and free weights. As well as, a full-size gymnasium for basketball, volleyball and other sports. It also includes a state-of-the-art teaching kitchen for cooking and nutrition classes. Plus a computer lab and children's play area. Membership cost for year is adult \$30, child \$20, senior \$15, and family \$75.

*Runners and Walkers*

There are a lot of runners and walkers in Fairmount. One way to connect with them is to join the Fairmount Neighborhood Runners Facebook group. Another way to find out about area groups and runs is to download the Strava app on your phone.

A few favorite runs are on the Trinity Trails. If you run from the neighborhood by the zoo and over the University bridge to the Mark Twain statue and back is three miles. The Mark Twain Statue is north from University and near the Trinity Park playground area. From the neighborhood to the Woodshed and back is two miles.

Marion Sansom Park is a great location if you like hills. It has trails for hiking, running, and expert mountain biking. This is a great spot in Fort Worth that eventually will connect to



*Above: Recently opened Fort Worth Strong offers personalized fitness and nutrition. Left: Many classes and instructors to choose from at the Fort Worth Jazzercise Center. Babysitting upon request. For photograph credits please visit websites.*

tracks like Trimble Tech next to Harris Hospital or Arlington Heights near Central Market. TCU also has a really fantastic track which is located off of W Berry St and Bellaire Dr W.

**Fort Worth Running Company**  
2401 W. 7th St. Suite 114  
Fort Worth, TX 76107  
817-731-1760  
lonestarfootwear.com

cheer, neighbors meet up at Fairmount Park for pancakes and cheering.

Saturday, February 29  
10K – 7:00 a.m.  
Adults 5K – 8:30 a.m.  
Kids 5K– 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, March 1  
Half Marathon,  
Full Marathon,  
Ultra Marathon, Healthy  
Hig Relay– 7:00a.m.



*Pick up a bike anytime at the neighborhood Bike Friendly Fort Worth station. Located in the neighborhood on S. Henderson next to Carton's shoes. For photograph credits please visit websites.*

*Biking*

**Bike Friendly Fort Worth (BFFW)**  
bikefriendlyfortworth.org

Bike Friendly Fort Worth (BFFW) is a non-profit advocacy organization dedicated to making Fort Worth a safer, kinder place to ride a bike. They host a weekly night ride on Sundays. They ride at a leisurely pace, usually averaging 9-13 miles. They plan 2-stops (either local pubs or a "hobo stop"). The stops usually last around 30 minutes each (one and done). Night Riders is a friendly group ride. Safely navigating our streets (at night) and having fun is important to all of us. For information on weekly rides like their

Facebook page, www.facebook.com/Fort-WorthNightRiders/

**Bicycle Betties**  
facebook.com/groups/bettiesridesfw

The Bicycle Betties is a ladies social cycling club that empowers women to lead healthy, balanced lives through community involvement and a supportive social cycling environment. We offer rides and routes for all levels of experience, ride in casual clothes, and never leave a rider behind.

**Bike Sharing Fort Worth**  
fortworthbikesharing.com

Purchase Day Pass, 3

Day Passes, or long term membership at any station, online or on the BCycle app. Membership includes unlimited one-hour rides.  
Day Pass- \$8  
3 Day Pass- \$15  
Monthly- \$11/month  
Annual- \$80

*Other*

**Dondoko Taiko Drum Group**  
Yamagata Kaikan  
3608 Park Lake Drive,  
76133  
dondokotaiko.com

If you want to learn how to play Japanese Taiko drums, beginner classes are offered weekly on Sunday evenings from 4:00-5:00.

**Mondo Drummers**  
1622 5th Ave  
817-832-6378  
www.mondodrummers.com

MONDO Drummers is a non-profit neighborhood arts program founded in 1994. MONDO provides low-cost drum kit and hand drumming instruction for people of all ages. Thursday nights, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. adult hand percussion class is on and going strong. Sign up by contacting calling or texting. Follow them on Facebook at The Mondo Drummers.

**Blue Zones and the Mayor's Fit Worth**  
Live longer and Better. Take the pledge at fortworth.bluezone-sproject.com

# Southside Preservation Hall

Iconic Former Church Buildings Need More Than Prayers

*By Michael Tucker-McDermott*

**I**t was a strange feeling sitting there in Fort Worth City council chambers with a couple of women from my neighborhood I barely knew at the time, telling our city council members we would gladly take this hodge podge of historic but abused and broken down buildings off the hands of a local charity—the Panther Boys Club—that was planning their demise, and promise to turn the spaces into a viable non-profit. It was strange, and frightening. That was twenty-five years ago in 1995.

But with the vision of one of those women, Rose Lynn Scott, her then husband, Jeff Gibbons, and a small army of enthusiastic Fairmount neighbors—the former Central Methodist Church—a 1910 French Gothic Sanctuary, the 1920s fellowship hall, a three story

education building, and the 1950s chapel—became Southside Preservation Association, a surprisingly viable non-profit. The buildings were saved from demolition and work began on the restoration of the fellowship hall, now the ballroom, and the 1953 mid-century chapel and attached rooms, now the Rose Chapel and reception hall. Finishing these rooms first made sure Preservation Hall could keep going and these historic buildings maintained while work started on the sanctuary and education bldg.

Jeff Gibbons has recently become acting director of Southside Preservation Association, the buildings of which are also known by locals as just ‘the Hall.’ ‘I’m very excited about the prospects for the Hall,’ said Gibbons in a recent interview. ‘We have the wonderful Rose Chapel, Reception Salon, and Grand Ballroom



*Top left: The garden of the Rose Chapel, where many weddings have been held in front of the now ivy covered walls of the old education building. Since its new landscape was installed by volunteers and community service workers almost twenty years ago, it has become a popular outdoor venue.*

*Top right: Photographer, Stacy Luecker, got this interior of the Central Methodist Church before restoration. During demo, the barrel shaped ceiling with this original Quatrefoil design tin covering was discovered under foam ceiling tiles.*

*Above: The old fellowship hall with raised stage at far end, now the Grand Ballroom, ready for a wedding reception. The room was packed w/debris, windows reduced and boarded up, and light fixtures and other details long stolen when SPA took possession.*

*Left: The French Gothic inspired sanctuary of Central Methodist Church was begun in late 1909 and completed about a year later. The residence in the photo was demolished in the 50s to build the smaller chapel addition.*

*Opposite left: The original leaded and stained glass windows make a beautiful backdrop for this 1940s Palm Sunday in the sanctuary.*



*Right: A newly wedded couple emerges from what is now the Rose Chapel in 1957. Forty years later, some Fairmount residents pitched in by taking stained glass window making classes and replaced the broken out original windows with new leaded rose windows. The pews were missing as well under the nearly collapsed ceiling. Money raised from individuals paid for new vintage mid-century pews, salvaged from another local church.*



where we have hosted countless weddings, parties, dances, life celebrations, and events of all kinds over the last twenty-five years.”

Gibbons says they will continue to host all their current in-house events and are planning more, including a concert series and more community related activities. This will include their weekly Tuesday night swing dance lessons and the iconic first Fridays each month featuring Buddy’s Big Band dance night. Gibbons says they want to involve all the surrounding neighborhoods, but stressed that being located here in our historic district they are especially interested in the participation of Fairmount and it’s residents. Volunteers and fund raising ideas are also needed as much more remains to be done to preserve these important historic structures.

“We have tens of thousands of square feet within these buildings that has not yet been renovated or restored,” he said, including the potential jewel of the complex, the 110-year-old sanctuary, as well as the education building. “This is both a challenge and a great opportunity, Gibbons said enthusiastically, “to create spaces for classrooms, studios, workshops, a theatre, and other uses within the goal of serving the community.”

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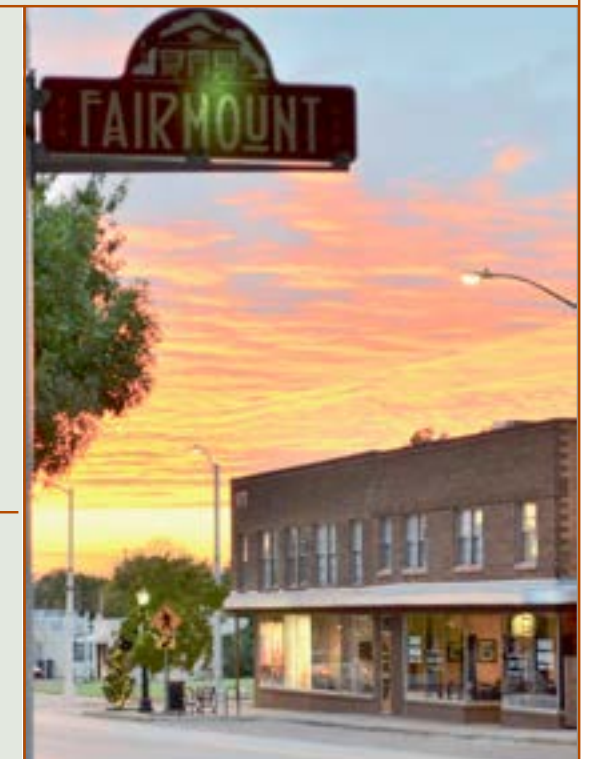
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**817-332-1116**





# HOME TOUR

## JOIN THE TEAM 2020

After FIVE blockbusting years as Fairmount's Home Tour Director and lead team member, our amazing neighbor, Julie Mathis will be moving into a supporting role for this important event. For those who may not know, Julie's efforts (also with the endless devotion and assistance of her family) have helped Fairmount earn over \$100,000 for things like Fairmount Park improvements, street light repairs, and various neighborhood celebrations.

As Julie moves into her many new roles, it's time for Fairmount to begin planning Home Tour 2020. With just a bit of effort from us all, we will continue to produce the fun, inclusive and welcoming event that Julie and her predecessors have built for the last 37 years!

To do this, we'll need your help. The FNA Board is now recruiting the Home Tour 2020 lead team. These folks will, in turn, build committees to manage the tasks necessary to ensure a successful event supporting another year's cash flow and various shenanigans for our beloved neighborhood.

Here are the positions that we need to fill:

**HOME TOUR CO-DIRECTOR:** Conduct regularly scheduled meetings with the Home Tour leads to ensure all pre-determined deadlines are met. Assist in removing any barriers to the completion of each committee's goals. Be available throughout Home Tour (Mother's Day Weekend) to facilitate success, answer questions and, when necessary, sweat the small stuff.

**SITE OWNERS LIASON:** Locate and enlist the support of up to five Fairmount homes and one business to be on Tour. Manage all necessary communications to our Tour site owners. Lead up to two site owner meetings to keep owners abreast of news and expectations, and to identify any emerging issues at our locations.

**DEVELOPMENT:** Build a committee

devoted to selling ad space in the Home Tour program. This team may also support identifying and contacting potential Site sponsors.

**HISTORICAL RESEARCH:** Learn the ropes from Michael McDermott. Create historical narrative to be used in all promotional materials for each of our Tour sites. Bonnie Blackwell will also be supporting this team.

**TOUR PROGRAM DESIGN:** Managed for years by Stacy D Luecker, Fairmount's Goddess of the Creative, assist in building the book that highlights all of our sites' histories and our advertisers/sponsors. This team has also created our annual poster design and event t-shirts in years past.

**MARKETING/PROMOTIONS:** Create and distribute Home Tour advertising content to local media outlets and social media.

**VOLUNTEERS:** Using all means possible (read as "sign-up.com"/etc.), build all communications for and facilitate fulfillment of approximately 220 volunteer slots available for Home Tour set-up/tear down, site management, ticket sales, and Wine Down. Kim Worley will be assisting.

**SiNaCa GALLERY TICKET TEAM:** Partner with our fine friends at SiNaCa and the Volunteer team to sell/distribute tickets, t-shirts and posters during Home Tour.

**PARADE:** Join our own "Parade Patty" in locating and enlisting potential parade float/participants. Work with our NPO and Citizens on Patrol to ensure a safe parade route. On Saturday, wrangle participants into something that vaguely resembles a line, and hit "Go!". Huge thanks to Patricia Bradley for leading our parade for countless years!

**PROGRESSIVE DINNER:** Procure (don't worry, there's a budget!) dinner for forty served the Saturday before Home Tour to all of the Site Owners, the Home Tour

Lead Team and the FNA Board Members. This fun and casual event affords the Site Owners an opportunity to visit each other's homes -- an opportunity for which there may not be time otherwise. We're thrilled that this team will again be led by the unstoppable team of Nancy Strickland and Deanna Stuart.

**WINE DOWN:** Partner with location and Volunteers Lead to build a social event sharing our gratitude with our legion of event volunteers. A light meal and refreshments are typically included. For many recent years, Wine Down has been held at the beautiful Rosen House Inn, and supported by Kelly and Jason Bowden.

**SET UP/TEAR DOWN:** Build and lead small but mighty teams of flag hangers, table bringers and podium placers, and more. The importance of this team, and its impact on just how beautiful Home Tour and Fairmount as a whole look during Mother's Day weekend must not be underestimated!

**SO, WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME,** you ask? You will quickly become entangled with a herd of Fairmount's kindest and most devoted neighbors! There is no better way to meet such a large, riotous group of people who care so deeply for the area and the lives of those surrounding them. You'll also receive, free of charge, an incredible sense of community and accomplishment ... and at least two memorable meals during each Progressive Dinner and Wine Down.

READY TO SIGN-UP ... OR MAYBE HAVE SOME QUESTIONS?

**Contact David Weuste, FNA President at [president@historicfairmount.com](mailto:president@historicfairmount.com) or**

**Brian Holland, FNA Promotions Director at [promotions@historicfairmount.com](mailto:promotions@historicfairmount.com)**

SIGN-UP TO BE A LEAD, OR SIGN-UP TO JOIN A COMMITTEE -- IT DOESN'T MATTER JUST SIGN UP!

### UPDATES FROM COUNCILWOMAN, ANN ZADEH



#### Hemphill Lamar Connector

The Hemphill Connector is scheduled to complete the paving and retaining wall construction in February 2020, and the landscaping will be installed in March 2020. The Art Work contract will go to City Council soon for installation in Spring 2020.

#### Hemphill Street Improvements

Curb and gutter construction as well as new Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant curb ramps along the 4.4 mile length of Hemphill Street from West Boyce Avenue to West Vickery Boulevard is complete.

Paving is finished from Pennsylvania Ave to E. Berry St. The road resurfacing is approximately 50% complete. All paving is expected to be complete by May 2020.

Construction will resume southbound from Berry St to Boyce Ave. The final segment from Vickery Blvd. to Pennsylvania Ave will be finished. Pavement markings installation from W. Vickery Blvd. to Interstate 20 is scheduled after the roadway asphalt is finished.

Ann Zadeh, AICP  
Councilmember District 9  
817.392.8809  
[Ann.zadeh@fortworthtexas.gov](mailto:Ann.zadeh@fortworthtexas.gov)

#### THE GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

[gbbc.birdcount.org](http://gbbc.birdcount.org)

The next GBBC is February 14-17, 2020. Bird watchers of all ages can count birds to create a real-time snapshot of where birds are. Your sightings contribute to hundreds of conservation decisions and peer-reviewed papers, thousands of student projects, and help inform bird research worldwide.



# TEA

with

# GEORGE

Tuesdays

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

13 Chase Court

Join Tuesday Tea at  
Chase Court on Facebook

UPDATE

# RESIDENT PERMIT PARKING

**R**esident Permit Parking (RPP) is being proposed for the 1300 & 1400 blocks of the Fairmount neighborhood from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. According to the city, RPP is defined as an area that is one or more blocks of a residential street where on-street parking is limited to residents' or residents' visitors or vendors. Below are some of the details about how RPP work but the details for Fairmount are still being ironed out.

Each residence in the RPP may receive up to three permits and two vendor permits (for yard crews, child care providers or other service companies). Residents who own property or occupy a residence (single-family home, duplex, or apartment) located within a designated resident-parking-only zone are eligible to obtain a permit. There is no cost for resident, visitor and temporary permits.

Resident permits are stickers and vendor permits are hang-tags. Resident permits are valid for one year and expire December 31 of each year. Visitor and temporary permits would be available for residents who have guests coming to their home. These passes could be requested online up to 24 hours before the permit is scheduled to be used. These permits are valid for 24 hours. Temporary permits are for those times when residents are using a temporary vehicle or have long-term guests. These permits may be requested online, too, and are valid for 30 days. Visitor permits are available for 24-hours or 30 days depending on the resident's needs. Temporary permits are valid for only 24-hours. Visitor permits are available at no cost for either 24-hours or 30-days.

Vehicles parking in a resident-parking-only zone must display a valid permit. Signs would be erected to indicate a resident-parking-only zone. Failure to display a valid permit can result in a parking violation. Citations are issued to the vehicle's registered owner. Enforcement within the resident-parking-only zone focus on spillover parking from the non-residential generators. During normal business hours, the Transportation & Public Works Department's parking enforcement team will address spillover parking and any related complaints. Complaints can be directed to 817-392-2091 during normal business hours. An inquiry will be created so staff can investigate. Outside of normal business hours, residents can contact the Fort Worth Police Department at the non-emergency number, 817-392-4222.

Resident feedback and the traffic parking study will help determine the final Fairmount RPP. You can contact city staff members, Tanya Brooks and Peter Elliot with your



Above: At the city's suggestion, homeowners put orange cones out to prepare first thing in the day for the onslaught of lunchtime traffic. When leaving residents, must move cones to back out of their driveway and then stop in street to put the cone back in the drive approach. One neighbor reported a patron parking in their private driveway, while he ran in to pick up his lunch. Below: homeowners put city provided cones out in attempt to curb illegal parking during heavy daytime and lunchtime traffic.



questions or feedback for the RPP. Their emails are Tanya.Brooks@fortworthtexas.gov and Peter Elliot Peter.Elliott@fortworthtexas.gov.

To look at other resident permit parking programs in the city, go to [fortworthtexas.gov/parking/resident](http://fortworthtexas.gov/parking/resident).



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**GARDEN**



**Join Us!**

February 22nd  
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

ANNUAL PLOT RENTAL



Cost \$55 per plot  
Mulch & compost included  
4 x 8 plot

Come grow with us in our 10th Season!

[www.fairmountcommunitygarden.org](http://www.fairmountcommunitygarden.org)

WINTER GARDEN PLANTINGS



Asparagus, Beets, Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Cabbage, Carrots,  
Swiss Chards, Collard Greens, Garlic, Kale, Onion, Parsley,  
Peas, Potato, Radish, Spinach, Turnip Greens

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in for  
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**bloom**  
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1411 W. Magnolia Ave.

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**ANIMAL RESCUE**

[www.goodneighborsanimalrescue.org](http://www.goodneighborsanimalrescue.org)

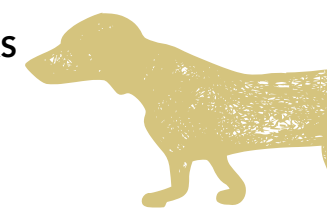
**FORT WORTH DOG PARKS**  
[fortworthtexas.gov/dogparks](http://fortworthtexas.gov/dogparks)

**Fort Woof**  
751 Beach St.

This park features a 3.4 acre area for large dogs and a 1.6 acre area for smaller dogs, which makes it easy to stay close to your playful pup. Fort Woof is closed every Monday from 5:30 to 11 a.m. for scheduled maintenance.

**ZBonz Dog Park**  
6950 W. Camp Bowie Blvd.  
near the 183 traffic circle

ZBonz is a ten acre, fully-irrigated park Wbuilt on the former Z. Boaz Golf Course. ZBonz has separate sections for large and small dogs. The surrounding park has large sidewalks left over from its golf course days. ZBonz is closed every Monday for scheduled maintenance.



**FERAL CAT PROGRAM**

*Porch Kitties*

**Artwork of Mr. Jinx by Allison Helt**  
**Backyard story by Serena Keeler**

**T**his summer, amongst our three ducks, we had a young male cat join our backyard flock. This young cat hid from us and survived on duck food until we finally started spotting him. He is a huge yellow tabby with bright golden eyes. The kids decided to name him Peaches, because of his color and he was hiding out with the ducks under our peach tree. He is quite the beauty! My daughter has slowly won him over. He now lets her pet him and he eats cat food instead of duck food. And it turns out our ducks also really love cat food. So much so, that they demand it!

When it came time to neuter Peaches, I reached out to my lovely neighbor and animal lover, Maureen Harris. She gave me information about the Feral Fixing Program. When I called the program, they asked for my zip code and it turns out Fairmount feral cats can be brought in free of charge. I just had to make an appointment and to show proof of address with a utility bill. Because we have adopted Peaches or rather he has adopted us, mainly my daughter, the clinic said we did not have to have his ear clipped. His ears are still in tack even if other parts of him are not! To learn more about the Fixing Program, go to [TexasForThem.org](http://TexasForThem.org).

**TCAP Burleson**  
344 SW Wiltshire Blvd.  
817-426-3777  
[TexasForThem.org](http://TexasForThem.org)

Call to make an appointment  
Drop off between 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.  
Pick up by 3:00 p.m.

# FAIRMOUNT BACKPAGE



Top left: The Chat Rack in front of the Chat Room has donated cold weather items to take for those who need them. Top right: neighbors Perry Justin and Adrienne Johnson with niece and nephew out keeping Fairmount beautiful by picking up trash. Perry makes these garbage truck wagons and has more to rent/sale if interested. You can visit [tinytrashtruck.org](http://tinytrashtruck.org) to learn more about his work. He dreams of a day that neighbors can borrow tiny trucks for their volunteer events to help keep Fairmount litter free. Bottom left: hand painted fire hydrant on S Adams. Bottom right: Spinster Farm's Little Free Pantry on S Henderson St. where neighbors can donate food items for those who might need food.