

A PUBLICATION OF THE FAIRMOUNT NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

• NATIONAL HISTORIC DISTRICT •

# FAIRMOUNT

OCTOBER 2017



Meet The New Board  
**Artist Spotlight**  
Halloween in Fairmount  
**ArtsGoggle**

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You can drive by on the 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue side and drop the supplies off at Arts Fifth Avenue on November 5, 12, and 19. You won't even have to leave your car—someone will be outside to take your supplies. We invite you to join us in making sure that all our students have what they need to be successful in school.

We meet every Sunday at 10:30 at ARTS FIFTH AVENUE on the corner of 5th and Allen, right here in Fairmount.

Come and join us--there is a place for you.  
Fairmount Neighborhood



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# STAFF BOX

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Fairmount is on Facebook.  
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# IMPORTANT INFO

**NPO (NEIGHBORHOOD POLICE OFFICER): SERGIO GUADARRAMA**  
PH: 817-944-1316 EMAIL: Sergio.Guadarrama@fortworthtexas.gov  
DIAL 911 TO REPORT A CRIME!

**TRASH /RECYCLING PICK UP IS ON WEDNESDAY.**  
**BULK TRASH IS THE 4TH MONDAY OF THE MONTH. THIS IS THE SAME DAY AS OUR GENERAL MEETINGS!**  
You can sign up for text reminders as well as download the app.  
**OCTOBER 23RD** will be the next general meeting and bulk trash day!

Our new code compliance office is Eric Muhammad.  
PH: 682-444-8409 EMAIL: Eric.Muhammad@fortworthtexas.gov

## Pothole? Traffic signal out? Here's how to report it

When you see something that needs to be fixed, call 817-392-8100 and be ready to give the representative a specific location so your concern can be addressed. You can request maintenance or repairs for alleys, bridges, curbs and gutters, traffic signs, pavement markings, potholes, railroad crossings, school zone signs and flashing lights, sidewalks, street lights, traffic signals and parking meters. You also can report flooding, blocked storm water inlets, tree limbs or obstacles in the roadway and water pooling in the street.

Our monthly neighborhood association meetings are the fourth Monday of the month at 7 PM. They are held at Southside Preservation Hall located at 1519 Lipscomb St. Everyone is welcome to attend. We also have FNA applications at the meetings or online if you would like

**FAIRMOUNT NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**  
**GENERAL MEETING**  
**SOUTHSIDE PRESERVATION HALL**

**MONDAY 7-8 PM**  
ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND  
WWW.HISTORICFAIRMOUNT.COM

to join. Membership is open to homeowners and renters alike within Fairmount as well businesses and as friends of Fairmount to those who do not live in the neighborhood.



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# Meet Our New Fairmount Board Members!

By: Angela DeQuesada

At the August 28th Fairmount Neighborhood Association (FNA) general meeting, neighbors elected a new President and Directors of Membership, Promotions, Administration, and Infrastructure.

Sara Karashin, Deanna Stuart, Sean Ford, Leah Suasnovar, and Breinn Richter are set to carry on the important work of these positions for the next two years. They began their duties on August 31st. The FNA thanks outgoing FNA board members Patricia Bradley, Carrie Carter, Alex Thieroff, Kim Worley, and David Thrapp for their service these past two years.

These FNA board positions are elected in odd numbered years, while Director of Communications, Finance, Historic Preservation, and Public Safety are elected in even numbered years to ensure a continuity overlap in Board leadership. Board members meet on the first Monday of each month and attendance is open to the neighborhood.

In this article we allow our new President and Directors to introduce themselves to our neighborhood at large.

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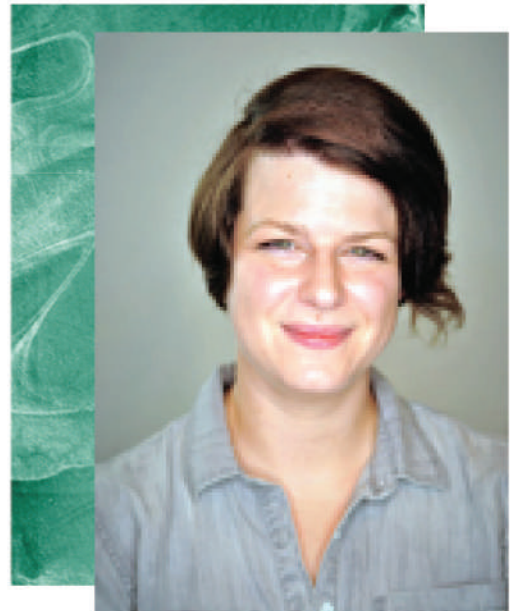
Sara Karashin has lived in Fairmount since 2012 with her husband Willie and her two young sons. If her name already sounds familiar it is most likely because you have already encountered her in the neighborhood in other volunteer capacities.

Previously Sara served for two years as a Board Member and Director of Public Relations and Marketing for the Fairmount Community Library. Additionally, Sara served as an administrator on the Fairmount Neighborhood-Fort Worth Facebook group for three years.

Sara has a background in Horticulture Design from Purdue University and moved to the Fort Worth area in 2009 after graduating from Texas A&M with a Masters in Landscape Architecture.

Sara grew up in the small town of Auburn, Indiana where she credits the town's annual "World's Greatest Classic Car Show" as inspiring her love for all things historic. The Fairmount neighborhood appealed to her and her husband straight away with its historic homes and perfectly central location, while also reminding her of the charms of her own small hometown.

Sara credits her decision to run for FNA Board President in part to a vote of confidence from current Director of Historic Preservation, Susan Harper. Persuasion aside, Sara's motives for running for office include a sincere desire to support fellow FNA Board Members and the entire Fairmount community in their efforts to improve their neighborhood.



***Sara Karashin, our new FNA Board President, loves that neighbors are practically family in Fairmount.***

If a member or friend of the Fairmount community has a project, suggestion, request for FNA help, or other comment please contact Sara at [president@historicfairmount.com](mailto:president@historicfairmount.com) or send a message via Facebook (@SaraK-shin).

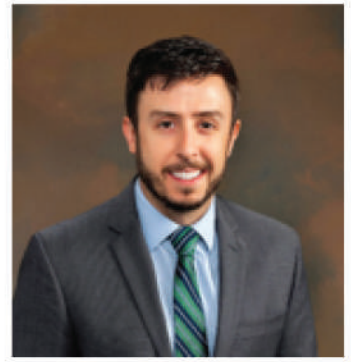
However, Sara does offer this contact information with fair warning:

"I will likely try to recruit you! Volunteers of all kinds are a special resource, and my goal is to encourage my neighbors to get involved and see their ideas through."

**Deanna Stuart,  
our new Director  
of Membership,  
enjoys the  
eclectic feel to  
the Fairmount  
neighborhood.**



**Sean Ford, new  
Director of  
Promotions, feels  
that the people of  
Fairmount make it  
such a great, lively,  
and fun place to be.**



Deanna Stuart moved into Fairmount three years ago and immediately set to fixing up and creating in her “old house” on Carlock Street. One of the first things she added was a friendly and charming white picket fence around the front yard. She loves to be creative with thrift store finds and often you will find her tending her cheerful garden.

Nearby on Henderson Street, Deanna works as the Director of Development for Cancer Care Services, a nonprofit serving individuals and their families affected by cancer. She is passionate about her job and loves that she can live and work in the Near Southside area.

Originally from the Chicago area, Deanna moved to be close to her three adult children located in the DFW metroplex. The jewel in Deanna’s life is her sweet grandbaby who she loves to spend time with.

Deanna felt motivated to run for the FNA Director of Membership position because she has previously held the title of membership director for various other groups and truly enjoyed that “it allows you to really get to know people- by name and by face.” Deanna hopes to increase the FNA membership pool and to make new residents feel right at home. “There is room for everyone in this neighborhood whether you have lived here 30 years or 30 days. All are welcome!”

Deanna invites anyone with a membership question or concern to reach her via email at:  
**membership@historicfairmount.com**

**Are you currently a FNA member?**

Don't forget to sign up or renew your membership during FNA meetings or events.  
*\$20 Individual • \$25 Family*

Sean Ford has called Fort Worth home since 2010 and is a recent addition to the Fairmount neighborhood as of July 2016. Sean hails from Pennsylvania and earned his aerospace engineering degree from Penn State, a Master’s degree from Georgia Tech, and currently works locally at Lockheed Martin.

Besides his passion for community building, Sean spends his spare time woodworking and motorcycle riding. In Spring 2017 Sean started a woodworking business, Little Bell Woodcraft, offering custom furniture and art.

Sean believes that community involvement is paramount and felt that the Director of Promotions position was a great way to get involved while getting to know the neighbors.

“Fairmount is such a great place and I want to help it grow and thrive. I’m excited to get to know the people and business owners in this area and help show them what a great community this is.”

Sean brings many years of volunteer experience and leadership to this position. He was a volunteer firefighter and heavily involved in the day to day operation of a fire company. This led to him obtaining his national firefighter certification and helped him garner a lot of leadership experience working with non-profit stakeholders.

During his tenure as Director of Promotions, Sean hopes to implement a plan to increase FNA membership in conjunction with the other Board members and to direct neighborhood involvement toward the four schools within and near Fairmount’s borders.

Sean welcomes any comments or suggestions for Promotions at his email address:

**Promotions@historicfairmount.com**



***Leah Suasnovar, FNA Director of Administration counts herself lucky to be such good friends with so many neighbors in Fairmount.***

Leah Suasnovar is a longtime Fairmount resident of 16 years and is busy raising the third generation of Suasnovars to live in the neighborhood. She loves to garden and has won Fairmount Yard of the Month for her beautiful, corner double lot garden on 6th Avenue.

Leah works in the Purchasing Department of Tarrant County College and in May graduated from TCC with her Associate’s degree. Leah says that college has transformed her into a “master note-taker” and this informs her Director of Administration board position as it is her responsibility to take and record the meeting minutes.

Leah was motivated to run for a FNA board position based on her passion for volunteering. Her biggest hope is to share the information from Board meetings and the FNA general membership meetings to individuals in the neighborhood who cannot attend regularly due to other responsibilities.

Leah invites the Fairmount community to get in touch with her via Facebook (@leahpricesuasnovar) or by email at: **administration@historicfairmount.com**

***Breinn Richter, new FNA Director of Infrastructure, plans to work directly with City leaders and staff to get updates on current and future neighborhood projects.***



Breinn Richter wears many hats: entrepreneur, student, wife, stay at home mom of two young boys, and passionate advocate for social justice and education issues in the City of Fort Worth.

Breinn and her family have lived in Fairmount since 2010. Breinn loves the camaraderie in the neighborhood and porch sitting. She has a Bachelor’s degree in Agriculture from Texas A&M, a MBA in Management from Texas Christian University and is currently enrolled in a PhD Educational Human Resources Development program at Texas A&M. Breinn grew up in Arlington, but after graduating from TCU and relocating to Fort Worth she considers herself a fifth-generation Fort Worthian.

Breinn felt that serving as the FNA Director of Infrastructure was a natural fit as she is no stranger to public meetings, speaking behind the podium and in person with local leadership and is already immersed in topics relevant to our local school districts.

Breinn has followed the political system since her early college days and states that she “has a knack for getting to the decision-makers to get answers on behalf of the group I am serving.”

She hopes to inform our neighborhood about the upcoming Fort Worth city bond elections and would also like to work with Fort Worth and Near Southside Inc. to develop collaborative solutions to address issues like Magnolia Avenue parking, and neighborhood gentrification. “It is important to me to encourage the use of mass transit, keep our homes and taxes affordable, be kind to our neighbors, and develop our neighborhood schools, parks, and community centers to be the best in the City.

Breinn invites the Fairmount community to reach her by email at: **infrastructure@historicfairmount.com**

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*Old House Journal* is a fantastic resource that covers a variety of topics relevant to these old Fairmount houses! OHJ is giving Fairmount residents a special offer on their magazine: One year for \$10. However, subscription requests must be sent in batches of 10 or more. The Fairmount Neighborhood Association is acting as coordinator and will submit a lump sum payment to OHJ when 10 or more people express interest.

If you would like to receive this special offer please fill out the following form, staple your cash or check payment to it, and drop it off at the monthly FNA meetings (4th Mondays of the month at 7pm at the Southside Preservation Hall). Checks will not be cashed until 10+ people sign up.

Please write checks payable to the Fairmount Neighborhood Association.  
If 10+ people do not sign up, all moneys will be returned within 4-8wks.

## ***Get a year of old-house inspiration for a steal!***

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS SPECIAL OFFER AND SUBSCRIBE TO *OLD HOUSE JOURNAL* FOR JUST \$10, PER YEAR!



**YES, I'D LIKE TO RECEIVE ONE-YEAR (8 ISSUES)  
OF OLD HOUSE JOURNAL (A \$16 VALUE)**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
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EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**RETURN THIS FORM AND PAYMENT TO:**

Your Group's Administrator

*US addresses only. Please allow 6-8 weeks for your first issue.*

### **Promotions News!**

First we would like to thank everyone who came out for National Night Out this month. It was another great success.

Our next event is Arts Goggle, put on by our neighbors at Near Southside Inc. On Oct. 21 incredible local artists and vendors will take over Magnolia Ave. from Noon to 10pm. Come out and support Arts Goggle and the neighborhood! Fairmount Neighborhood Association is sponsoring 6th Ave-Fairmount so come and visit the Fairmount booth to get some great info on the neighborhood, meet some of your board members and other volunteers, and win some prizes.

We also have the yard of the month this month for best Halloween decorations. Fairmount never disappoints with some of the best Halloween decorations in the area and we can't wait to see what you do this year.

We are always looking for volunteers to help with the many fun events we sponsor or run. It's a great way to help our neighborhood. If you'd like to get more involved please get in touch with any board member, or keep an eye out on the Fairmount-Neighborhood Facebook page for volunteer opportunities.

### **Home Tour News!**

It's time to think about Home Tour again! We are in need for tour homes for the 2018 Fairmount Home Tour held Mother's Day weekend May 12th and 13th. Please contact Julie Mathis at [hometour@historicfairmount.com](mailto:hometour@historicfairmount.com) if you would like to volunteer your home or if you have questions regarding home tour.



## Fort Worth Historic Preservation Ordinance Update

The staff from the City's Planning and Development department is proposing changes to the Historic Overlay Ordinance. This ordinance protects designated historic structures by requiring Certificates of Appropriateness (COA) for exterior work and establishes the Historic Site Tax Exemption (HSTE).

The staff states the primary purpose of these changes are to:

- Increase staff time spent with customers by reducing staff time spent on reports and administration of the Historic and Cultural Landmarks Commission (HCLC);
- Make the ordinance more user friendly; and
- Realistically work within the staff's budget.

Several minor changes eliminate redundancies, clarify confusing text and reorder sections to improve readability. But some very significant changes are also being proposed, including:

- The Historic Preservation Officer (HPO) will have authority to append status (contributing or non-contributing).
- HPO will determine whether an application for a COA is complete.
- HPO will determine the level of review required for a COA (HPO or HCLC).
- The HPOs authority for COA approval will increase as follows:

<p><u>Currently:</u> <b>HCLC</b> has authority for all COAs except <b>HPO</b> may authorize:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The removal of non-original and non-historic materials</li><li>• The restoration of existing features or proven original details</li><li>• Emergency repairs and other public, health and safety issues</li><li>• Work on noncontributing structures other than additions</li></ul>	<p><u>Proposed:</u> <b>HPO</b> has authority over all COA applications except <b>HCLC</b> approval is required for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New construction of a primary structure</li><li>• Waivers from applicable design standards and guidelines</li><li>• Demolition and relocation</li><li>• Requests for determination (whether structure should be demolished)</li><li>• Referrals from the HPO</li></ul> <p>Decisions by the HPO may be appealed to HCLC.</p>
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Other changes include:

1. Property owners will bear the burden of proof for claims of financial hardship or loss of historical significance.
2. HSTE applications must be submitted prior to a rehabilitation project. No using a prior owner's work after the fact.
3. Only exterior rehabilitation items will count towards rehabilitation costs. No interior project costs will qualify.

There are other changes that don't impact most homeowners. The City staff is putting these changes out for public comment, so feel free to contact them for the complete draft of the ordinance, or attend their next presentation. You can voice your opinion directly to them or through the Neighborhood Association.

Susan Harper – FNA Director of Historic Preservation, [preservation@historicfairmount.com](mailto:preservation@historicfairmount.com)

Murray G. Miller, City of Fort Worth Historic Preservation Officer, [Murray.Miller@fortworthtexas.gov](mailto:Murray.Miller@fortworthtexas.gov)

Justin Newhart, City of Fort Worth Senior Planner, [Justin.Newhart@fortworthtexas.gov](mailto:Justin.Newhart@fortworthtexas.gov)

## Preservation News!

There will be a joint meeting of Fairmount and Ryan Place on November 9th at 6:30 pm at St. Johns Church to hear about and discuss the changes to the Historic Preservation Ordinance.

# Art Fair[mount]: CHOKE: The Masked Artist

By: Dani Wiedel

Though she has many friends and is connected in the artist community, CHOKE prefers to remain relatively anonymous as an artist. Shrouded in mystery behind the mask, never directly sharing her face with the camera, she instead prefers to let her artwork – her energy – speak for itself. CHOKE (Creating Her Own Kinetic Energy) took a break between festival preparation and Hurricane Harvey relief support to answer a few questions about herself and her work for this month's Art Fair[mount] – a neighborhood artist profile.

CHOKE

## Name:

"CHOKE"

Creating Her Own Kinetic Energy

## When did you move to Fairmount?

April 2017

## Where did you move from?:

I moved here from Oakland, California.

## Describe your style:

My artistic style is what I like to call "Intuitive Ancestral Veneration." I'm on a lifelong quest to get to know myself and ancestry through my art so I allow for my intuition to inform all of my pieces. More often than not, I will have no clue how it'll turn out until it's done! It's a fun process.

## What are you best known for?:

I'd like to say I'm best known for the texture each and every piece of mine has. My work makes you want to touch it, which in most cases, you can!

## Which medium is your favorite?:

Totally off topic, but knives. I'm a sucker for a well-made Japanese knife. So, I guess you could say, food! Food is my favorite medium. I actually really LOVE to cook! Come over sometime and we'll break bread!

## What inspires your work?:

The sun, moon and stars. The Universe, every ancestor before me, food, plants and travel. My gifts and talents are so deeply embedded in my DNA that allowing them to just flow is the inspiration. To just "be" is not something everyone in this day and age can access. But, it's possible and EVERYONE has hidden gifts and talents within themselves, they just need to sit with themselves from time to time and discover! That's also why I like teaching, there's always someone in the room that doesn't even realize that they've got a true knack for creating art! I love giving that push of encouragement, it's very inspiring. Being human is inspiring.





**We noticed you don't prefer to show your face photos of yourself. Why is that?:**

As a kid and teen, I used to do graffiti; only a few people knew I did. The fumes were pretty terrible so I'd cover my face while I painted. Also, in school, I would wear hoodies every single day to school, the AC was ALWAYS cranking or the winters were just so unbearable; I was a really cold kid. The hoodies were my safe warm place to cover up. In my 20s I started performing at shows and to thwart off any undesirable male attention, I'd cover up and stay pretty mysterious as I painted live on stage during hip hop and jazz shows. Now, I've come to realize that I just want people to focus on my art and not who created it.

**What prompted you to give back to Hurricane Harvey victims?:**

I do know what it's like to be homeless and in a shelter with next to nothing. So when this hurricane hit, I gave it no thought. These folks were going to need the most basic of things and I felt I knew exactly which items would be needed. The only thing I could do to raise money as quickly as I did was sell my art. I wanted to share a piece of happiness (art) to those who selflessly gave to me to give to Hurricane victims as a reminder of their deed. It's what you're supposed to do as a human being, you share with each other. The planet needs more of this.

**What's next for you?:**

Soooo much I'm working on and I'm loving every moment! I just wrapped up a promo video shoot for The Funky Town Festival coming in 2018. I'm currently working on a 100 piece series of paintings that are 4 ft. x 4 ft. each. I've got a few commissions to finish, Hosting Monthly Paint Parties around the neighborhood, teaching a wellness and basics of juicing class in November, Arts Goggle is coming up, a fine arts show in Chicago and Washington D.C., Friday on the Green, South Street Arts Festival. I'm crossing my fingers I'll possibly painting live in Africa at the AfroPunk festival for New Years, moving into a house with my fiancé, also raising a puppy all while being as active as possible in Fairmount Neighborhood activities. "You know, the same thing we do every day, Pinky, take over the world!" -Pinky and the Brain.



----- "Ctpe" -----



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## JOIN the Fairmount Neighborhood Association! Why join?

- Get the newsletter delivered to your doorstep. We're bringing back a monthly printed newsletter.
- Know what's going on in Fairmount and the city that will affect you and your property.
- Meet old and new friends at our monthly socials. About 8+ a year and the Christmas party!

Annual dues are \$20 per individual. \$25 per family or \$50 per business.

Fill out this form and send it with your dues to Fairmount Neighborhood Association,  
P.O. Box 12348, Fort Worth, TX 76110-8348 or bring it to the next Association meeting.

You can also sign up online at [www.historicfairmount.com](http://www.historicfairmount.com).

Questions? Email [membership@historicfairmount.com](mailto:membership@historicfairmount.com).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

I am a  new  renewing member (check one)

I have lived in Fairmount \_\_\_\_\_ years.

Individual (\$20)  Family (\$25)

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I'd like to volunteer by: \_\_\_\_\_

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# UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct 21 - ArtsGoggle on Magnolia

Oct 23 - FNA General Meeting @ 7 PM  
**BULK TRASH DAY**

Oct 27 - Social at Great Harvest Bread Co  
**HALLOWEEN IS COMING! It's a big night in the 'hood. We hope to see lots of decorated homes for our yard of the month contest. 1st, 2nd & 3rd**

Follow our facebook page and sign up for our weekly emails to keep up to date with happenings in the 'hood!

Live in Fairmount? Want to celebrate your historic house with an official Fairmount National Historic District plaque? You can now order them on the Fairmount website at [www.historicfairmount.com](http://www.historicfairmount.com). Plaques are available to properties that contribute to the national historic district. If you want to know if your house is contributing you can find out here: <http://historicfairmount.com/index.php/contributing-structures/>



Plaques are available in bronze (\$255) and aluminum (\$155). For questions, contact [Susan Harper preservation@historicfairmount.com](mailto:SusanHarperpreservation@historicfairmount.com).

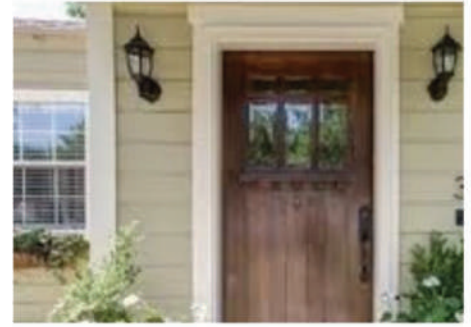
Neighbors, as you walk your babies, pets, or just yourself through Fairmount, swing by the green space on Allen St. between Henderson and 5th and admire the new Fairmount Historic Marker that was dedicated during Home Tour. It is displayed quite nicely thanks to Jacinto Perez, Mike McDermott and Stan Tucker. They worked hard cleaning out the space, planting the beds, and setting the marker. Also, big thanks goes to Leigh Ann Neese for navigating the process of application and approval with the Texas Historic Commission; Stacy Leucker for the suggestion and showing us how after acquiring a marker for her home, and to Ellen Timberlake-Volz of the Tarrant County Historic Commission for her guidance.



photo by Brian Luenser

**Socials Need Host Homes in 2018!  
Want to host an upcoming social?  
ALSO Looking for new Social Chair!**

The Fairmount Neighborhood Association provides beer/wine and hors d'oeuvres for the guests. Socials usually take place mid-month on a Friday evening from 6:30-8:30. It's a great way to get to know your neighbors and we've found having them in our neighbors' homes had a better turnout. If you are interested in being a host for a future social in 2018, please reach out to [membership@historicfairmount.com](mailto:membership@historicfairmount.com).



Finding the right front door is just the beginning.

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FREE Real Estate Market Review for your Fairmount Neighborhood @ FORTWORTHHOMEVALUE.NET



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