



## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

[Forest Hill, TX-December 13, 2007] The City of Forest Hill Fire-Rescue will welcome the Texas State Fire Marshal's **Fire Safety House** to David K. Sellars Elementary School, 4200 Dorsey in Forest Hill on December 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>.

Students will have the opportunity to walk through the house's kitchen, living room, and bedroom, locating potential fire hazards. "This is a fantastic tool that will provide the children of Forest Hill with fire-safety information and skills as well as a place to practice these skills," said Fire Chief Pat Ekiss. The program enables the children to practice simple methods of eliminating potentially dangerous situations. They will touch and feel a "hot door" and locate an emergency escape routes. At the conclusion of the tour, the children exit via an escape ladder as the safety house fills with non-toxic "smoke." A Deputy State Fire Marshal will operate the theatrical smoke machine and briefly speak to the children about the trailer and fire safety. In addition, a fire safety video will run continuously so that children who have toured or are waiting to enter the Fire Safety House may view it. All of the activities will be conducted under the supervision of the Forest Hill Fire Rescue team and Sellars Elementary school staff.

The **Fire Safety House** is effective in teaching children kitchen safety, exit drills, and proper safety procedures in the event of a fire. The mobile Fire Safety House has traveled to schools throughout the state for several years as part of the Texas State Fire Marshal's Office fire prevention education program.

Members of Forest Hill Fire-Rescue will be on hand to assist the Deputy State Fire Marshal in educating children these lifesaving lessons. "It is our hope that this program will help them to understand the proper procedures to put out a fire at home. What they learn at Sellars Elementary next week could someday save their lives and the lives of their family members or neighbors," added Ekiss.

Nearly 5,000 Americans die in house fires each year. Many of these fire victims are children. For more details about the **Fire Safety House** program at David K. Sellars Elementary School or fire prevention and awareness information, call Forest Hill Fire-Rescue at (817) 531-5715.

The City of Forest Hill was established in 1946. It is home to more than 13,000 residents and over 300 businesses. It is located in southeast Tarrant County. It has been named the 10<sup>th</sup> fastest growing city in Tarrant County by the *Fort Worth Business Press*.

Press Contact:  
Venus Wehle  
Director of Economic Development & Community Relations  
City of Forest Hill  
(817) 568-3003  
[vwehle@foresthilltx.org](mailto:vwehle@foresthilltx.org)

**6304 Wanda Lane**

**Forest Hill, Texas 76119**  
**www.foresthilltx.org**

**(817) 531-5715**