

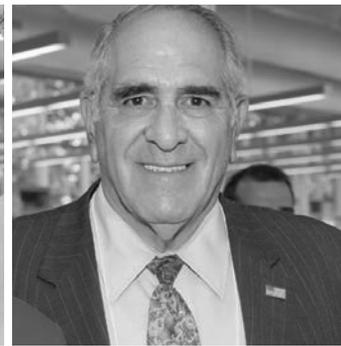
# FRIidays

SERVING FAR EAST DALLAS

SPRING 2012



YOUR  
PICTURE  
HERE



IN THIS ISSUE  
Membership is up, are you in?  
The WRH Library Opens  
Give Back this Holiday Season  
and MORE!



# WHAT'S MISSING FROM THIS PICTURE? YOU ARE!

A Letter from the President



by Vikki J. Martin, President

Well, it's been more than a year since FRI transitioned from dependency on federal dollars from the Department of Justice to the FRI Community Connection, an organization sustained by its members. And we are still alive – and growing!

Yes, the FRI Community Connection is still serving Far East Dallas, but this time around we are doing it through the support of our residents, businesses, faith communities, nonprofits, foundations and philanthropic supporters instead of the federal government. We are working to build our membership, continue to fundraise, utilize our wonderful volunteers, and build our capacity so that we can continue our legacy of improving Far East Dallas.

That's why, more than ever before, we need you! We need you to become a member (see Page 3) and begin attending our FRI Community Connection Breakfasts held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month (see article on Page 9), our quarterly Social Events, and our biannual Townhall meetings. (To learn more about these activities, check out our new, refurbished web site at [fergusonroad.org](http://fergusonroad.org).)

These events provide unique opportunities to connect our residents, businesses, churches, and nonprofits together because, frankly, we need each other! Together we can reduce crime, improve safety, fight urban blight, help under-performing schools, and support local businesses. By joining forces and building alliances with the corporate community, area businesses, the City of Dallas, the Police Department and other law enforcement agencies, the faith community, social service agencies and others, we can empower our community and make it the most desirable place to live and work in Dallas.

We also need your expertise and support as a member. Much of this issue of FRIdays is dedicated to the festivities related to the

Grand Opening of our \$8.5M White Rock Hills Branch Library. For those of you who attended, it was a historic day for FRI. It was the completion of a 17-year dream to bring additional education services to our area of town and to create a community hub that is enjoyed by everyone.

Now our Economic Development Dream Team has turned its attention toward the Community Recreation and Wellness Center to be built at Highland and Ferguson Roads. This facility will truly serve all of Far East Dallas. In addition, its location will tie into the to-be-developed White Rock Creek Trail South.

I hope this edition of FRIdays serves as your invitation to become a member of the FRI Community Connection. We need your experience, expertise, and support to grow your organization so that we can continue to provide crime prevention and promote public safety, bring programs that will strengthen our children and families, and support the mobilization and empowerment of our community.

If you are not a member of the FRI Community Connection, then what's missing on the front page of this news magazine is YOU! I hope that we can count on your support and participation in continuing our good work. Please join FRI and plan to attend one of our upcoming events. See you there!



Ryan Holloway presents Jerry Clancy of Lone Star Credit Union with an FRI Community Connection membership plaque.

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# COMMUNITY CONNECTION

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I want to join the Ferguson Road Initiative (FRI) Community Connection.

(Check your desired membership level below)

### Individual and Nonprofit Membership:

- Household @ \$50 per year
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- Neighborhood Associations @ \$70 per year
- Patron @ \$100 per year

### Business Membership:

- 1 to 10 employees @ \$175 per year
- 11 to 50 employees @ \$375 per year
- 51 to 100 employees @ \$575 per year
- 101 to 500 employees @ \$1,275 per year
- 501+ employees @ \$2,775 per year
- Apartments @ \$1 per unit.

## FOUNDERS CIRCLE

I want to join the FRI Community Connection Founder's Circle by making a multi-year pledge.

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- \$7,500 per year for 3 years (\$22,500 total)
- \$10,000 per year for 3 years (\$30,000 total)

### Benefits:

- Donor Plaque, and quarterly recognition in the FRI E-Blast
- All the above plus semi-annual recognition in the FRIdays New Magazine (mailed to 16,000 households)
- All the above plus your logo on the FRI Web site, 15% discount on FRIdays News Magazine advertising
- All the above plus recognition at Public Business & Community Meetings
- All the above plus a permanent banner on the FRI Web site, and recognition at ALL Special Events

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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FRI puts out an electronic newsletter (FRI NewsFlash) to keep the community up-to-date on issues related to Far East Dallas. This e-newsletter reaches about 2,500 households every month. To subscribe, send an email to [wscordinator@fergusonroad.org](mailto:wscordinator@fergusonroad.org).

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FRI Staff:  
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Linda Myers: Victims Outreach Coordinator  
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To place an ad in FRIdays News Magazine, call  
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[fergusonroad.org](http://fergusonroad.org).

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"The mission of FRI is to transform Far East Dallas into a Safe, Beautiful, Prosperous and Proud community by inspiring hope and working together to achieve a shared vision."

# Nexus, Neighborhood, Needs



by Becca Crowell, Executive Director of Nexus Recovery Center

Driving down La Prada past the East-field College campus, you've probably noticed our sign: Nexus Recovery Center. We're not exactly new neighbors; we've been in this 12 acre location since 1990. It's past time we introduced ourselves.

The "Recovery" in our name refers to recovery from addiction. Our mission is to empower women to break the cycle of addiction and, in doing so, create purposeful lives, stable families, and a stronger community. We address

*Nexus provides a placid setting for those with lives in turmoil.*

all aspects of a woman's life: her recovery, her family, her relationships, her health, and her future. Our clients live on campus as they learn the skills necessary to sustain their recovery.

We became a leader in treatment for women by welcoming children to accompany their mothers into treatment. We opened a program for adolescent girls and expanded the adult women program. We are the only provider in Texas to provide treatment for pregnant or newly parenting teens. The Children's Center provides day care for the children of our clients, our employees, and neighbors like you.

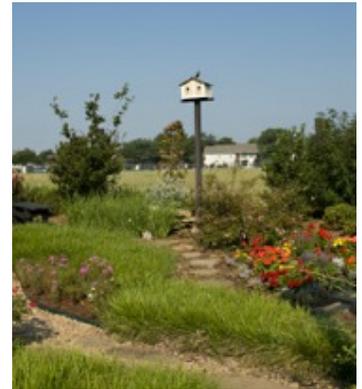
We are building a new adolescent dormitory, set to open in the fall.

Whom do we serve? Low-income women and adolescent girls and their accompanying children. Most clients come from counties around Dallas; but due to our unique program, Nexus accepts clients from throughout the state. Social service agencies, independent school districts, the justice system, Child Protective Services, hospitals, shelters, local churches, and family members refer clients to us.

What are our programs and services? We focus on the unique needs of female substance abusers. The program's therapeutic model centers on removing clients from unhealthy environments to a safe and supportive one. Programming addresses issues that frequently distinguish female addicts from their male counterparts: eating disorders, trauma, sexual abuse, and parenting. Nexus offers therapeutic and educational activities for the children, too.

We offer detoxification services, residential services, group and individual counseling, family education and therapy, an outpatient program, an aftercare program with alumni support, a transitional housing program, and more. In 2011, we served 1,963 women and adolescent girls and 340 children who accompanied their mothers into treatment.

We could not do our work without community partnerships and collaboration. For that reason, too, we are happy to say, "Hello, Neighbor!"



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# A GREAT DAY FOR FAR EAST DALLAS!

These photos are a small sample of the good times found at the June 16 Grand Opening of the White Rock Hills Library. To see a video of the parade, go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E4d7vvPZ7aU>.



*FRI proudly led the opening day parade*



*Gary Edgerton entertained children with his storytelling*



*Madison Black came as her favorite literary character, Hermione Granger from the Harry Potter series*



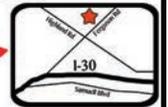
*Cynthia Porter and daughter Asa enjoy a book by the large back window.*

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# White Rock Hills Branch Library Fast Becoming a Major Community Asset



By Sandra King, Branch Manager

I am often asked about the importance of libraries. There are many who believe that with the Internet and electronic books, the library is now irrelevant. I beg to differ. Libraries provide access to information for all and are a necessary component to any great city or community.

With the economic downturn, free access to information has become more important than ever. This is evident in the fact that on any given day at the White Rock Hills Branch Library all 19 computers are in constant use. Customers are doing job searches, creating documents or checking email. On opening day we issued 82 new library cards and checked out more than 2,000 books!. Many others had their cards reinstated after several years of disuse.

The branch is also providing much-needed free educational programs. Every Wednesday morning at 10:30 a fun and entertaining program is presented using stories, songs and activities. Storytime helps prepare children in pre-reading skills needed to enter kindergarten. Another fun family program series is Library Live! presented by Thriving Minds on the first Saturday of each month. It can be a storyteller, music, or hands-on art activity. English as a Second Language classes began in August. For parents attending the ESL classes, another group of volunteers conducts programs for their children at the same time as the ESL classes.

The White Rock Hills Branch Library is quickly fulfilling its role as a community meeting place. On any given Saturday afternoon neighbors run into each other and visit. We are an entertainment destination for many in the area. One comment made to staff was from a woman who spends most of her days alone in her residence. Now that the

library is within walking distance, she said, she comes often to browse the collection and visit with staff.

As you can see, today's modern library is more than just books. White Rock Hills Branch Library is making a positive difference for many in the community—some we may never know how we helped, but we are here ready to serve when needed.

The White Rock Hills Branch Library is open Tuesdays and Thursdays 12 pm – 8 pm; Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays 10 am – 6 pm; closed Sundays and Mondays. For more information please call 214.670.8443.



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# "Knowledge Makes a Difference"

## FRI Victims Outreach Program



by Dr. Edna M. Foster, Ph.D.

In 2009, Ferguson Road Initiative recognized a need for victim outreach services after a rise of sexual assault/abuse and domestic violence murders within the community. As a result, the Victims Outreach Program was put into place to combat these issues and to help adult women

and children. The Victims Outreach Program developed partnerships with community agencies to ensure adequate services in addressing abuse issues. Some of these agencies included The Family Place, Brighter Tomorrows, Hope Coalition, Parkland Hospital Victim Intervention Program/Rape Crisis, and Mission East Dallas. Partnerships were also established with many faith-based organizations in Far East Dallas.

Through these partnerships, more than 400 victims have been served since the program's inception. However, this number is minute compared to the actual number of victims who continue to suffer in silence. Oftimes victims feel there is no way out. As a result, their abuse goes on for years until tragic consequences occur. The most impressive aspect about the Victims Outreach Program is that it reaches even the silent victims; creating the awareness, knowledge, and support needed to really help.

The Victims Outreach Program is proud to partner with Dallas Christian Women's Job Corps (DCWJC), a faith-based organization that provides life skills and job readiness training. One day while I was facilitating a workshop I noticed a woman who sat quietly, took notes, avoided eye contact, and displayed extreme difficulty with sitting still. She never took part in any of the discussions; however, halfway through the workshop she abruptly left the room, broke down crying and admitted to being in an abusive relationship. She had recognized all of the signs of abuse reviewed during the session. She was so emotional that she had to be comforted by 2-3 women before even leaving the workshop. According to the woman, she didn't really think her situation was that bad and she thought that every person goes through things like this in a relationship. It became clear that she probably came from a home where abuse and violence were common occurrences; making it acceptable in her personal value system. Jane was able to get the support and encouragement that she needed that day. As a result, she gained the strength needed to leave her abuser.

Abuse and violence have no limits as to whom they will affect. It is imperative to gain insight and pass it on to those who are in need.

I will be leaving FRI in the fall and I would like to say it has been a pleasure working for the Far East Dallas community. I'm thrilled to report that the Victims Outreach Program has been re-funded by the State of Texas for another grant year. If you know of anyone who is in an abusive situation and needs a way out, please feel free to contact our new Victims Outreach Coordinator, Linda Myers, at 214.324.5116.

  
**Dr. Theresa Daniel**  
**FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER 1**  
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By offering swim lessons to children through FRI, we work side-by-side to make a difference.

# School Officials Attend Community Breakfast

by Gary Lawler

The FRI Community Connection hosts breakfast at 7:30 a.m. on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. This is a great way to network with other area businesses, meet friends and neighbors, and learn more about your community. July's meeting at the Highland Park Cafeteria included input from DISD administrators and the principals of 6 area schools.

DISD District 3 School Board Trustee Dan Micciche urged the community leaders present to get involved with their area schools.

"We need the community to lift our schools above the enormous challenges of poverty, language, and lack of parental involvement. Volunteers are needed as tutors and mentors, classroom speakers, Texas Scholars presenters, judges, and member of advisory or site-based committees. Volunteers can help make dreams come true," Micciche said.

For information on how to become a volunteer, go to: <http://www.dallasisd.org/Page/6261> . For locations and subjects of future Community Connection breakfast meetings, contact FRI at 214-324-5116.



DISD Representatives at the July Community Connection breakfast include (top row, l-r) Dan Micciche, DISD Board; Rebecca Newman, Sanger; Stan Van Hoozer, Bryan Adams; Jonathan Smith, Truett (bottom row, l-r) Johnna Weaver, Lang; Nikia Smith, Bayles; Jane Didear, DISD Communications

## What Matters Most...People

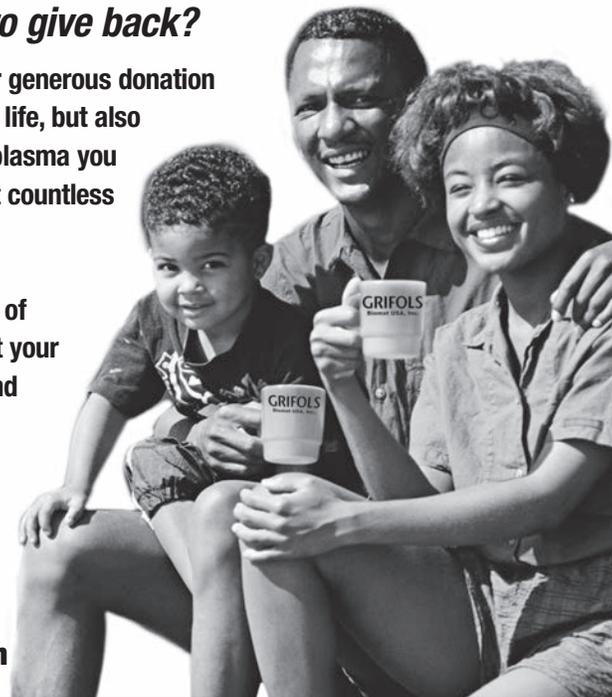
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# NCPC Selects FRI as Crime Fighting Training Site

by Gary Lawler

FRI and State Representative Eric Johnson (District 100) will host a basic crime-prevention skill-building course conducted by the National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC). This free course will be held on November 13, 14, and 15 at the White Rock Hills Library, 9150 Ferguson Road. The purpose of the course is to provide law enforcement agencies and Crime Watch groups with skill-based training, tools, and resources to assist in keeping our community safe. Topics include Emerging Crime Trends, Business Crime Prevention, Frauds and Scams, Senior and Cyber Safety, Neighborhood Watch, Gangs, and others.

Chuck Sczuroski, Senior Trainer for the NCPC in Arlington, VA, says Dallas was among the top sites chosen because of "FRI's impact within the community and its outstanding relationship with the Dallas Police Department."

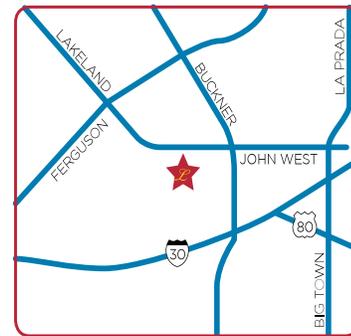


Online registration and information are available at [www.NCPC.ORG/TRAINING](http://www.NCPC.ORG/TRAINING), [coletrane@ncpc.org](mailto:coletrane@ncpc.org), and [csczuroski@ncpd.org](mailto:csczuroski@ncpd.org)



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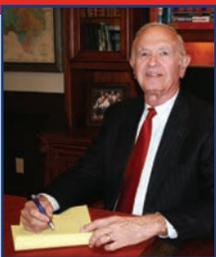
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Election Day Tuesday, Nov. 6



Larry has been married for 42 years to the former Judy Lee of Dallas. They have two sons, Jasen and Stephen and five grandchildren. He is a Deacon and Sunday School Teacher at Ferguson Road Baptist Church.

Pol. Ad. Paid for by the Larry Miller Campaign, Stephen Miller Treasurer, P.O. Box 571667 Dallas, TX 75337.

# Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program Helps in Many Ways



VITA is an IRS-based program that provides free tax preparation for low-income residents in our area. Here's what Jan Johnson, one of FRI's volunteer tax preparers, has to say about the program:

"I got involved as a volunteer in VITA 2 years ago. This is a great program that fills a vital need in this community. The rewards are fantastic! People show their great appreciation for the volunteers like me through their hugs, tears, and happiness! We could use more volunteers, especially those who speak Spanish. This year we had a combined total of \$1.8 million in tax returns here in Far East Dallas. This money goes back into our community, businesses, and churches. I would like to thank FRI for giving me this opportunity to serve families in this community for this great cause."

If you would like to volunteer for VITA in 2013, call the FRI office at 214-324-5116.

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# Forest Hills Neighborhood Has Deep Roots



By Judy Whalen

In 1845, Warren Angus Ferris selected a 640-acre tract of land near White Rock Creek to homestead. The Ferris Farm would later become the core of what is now known as Forest Hills.

Ferris, born in 1809 in New York, went west as a young surveyor, where he explored and surveyed the Rocky Mountains and the Yellowstone National Park area. He was involved in writing the Texas Declaration of Independence in 1836 and was reported to have been a captain in the Texas Army at the Battle of San Jacinto. In 1840, he began surveying what was to become Dallas County. His field notes record the arrival of John Neely Bryan, who founded the City of Dallas in 1841.



In 1847, Ferris began his family cemetery on what is currently the NW corner of St. Francis and San Leandro Drive. The last burial there was circa 1906, and about all that remains today is a Texas Historical Marker.

In 1924, Leon L. Fechenback dedicated the plat of the Forest Hills Addition, then six miles from the Dallas city limits. The land was bounded by Garland Road, Lakeland Drive, the Santa Fe railroad, Highland Road and one block of San Rafael Drive. Ads in the 1924 Dallas Morning News proclaimed “Your home in a forest – Your home built among massive oak, elm, and pecan trees – Built within a stone’s throw of beautiful White Rock Lake” as reasons for settling there.

Forest Hills was annexed into Dallas in 1945. The quiet, tree-shaded residential area, where walkers, runners, and bicyclists abound, has a small town feel within a big city.

The Forest Hills Neighborhood Association (a very active homeowners group) and the Forest Hills Security program (a resident-funded police patrol) provide support and protection for this jewel of a community.



Come see our new look.....



**Exit Jim Miller off I-30 in Dallas  
8117 East R.L. Thornton, Dallas, Texas 75228**



**Kim Lohrengel**

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# FRI Thanks Our Members & Sponsors

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FRI is deeply indebted to our Founder's Circle Members.  
 Founder's Circle Members are FRI members who have made an annual pledge to FRI for three years.

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FRI would like to thank and acknowledge our Dreams Come True sponsors  
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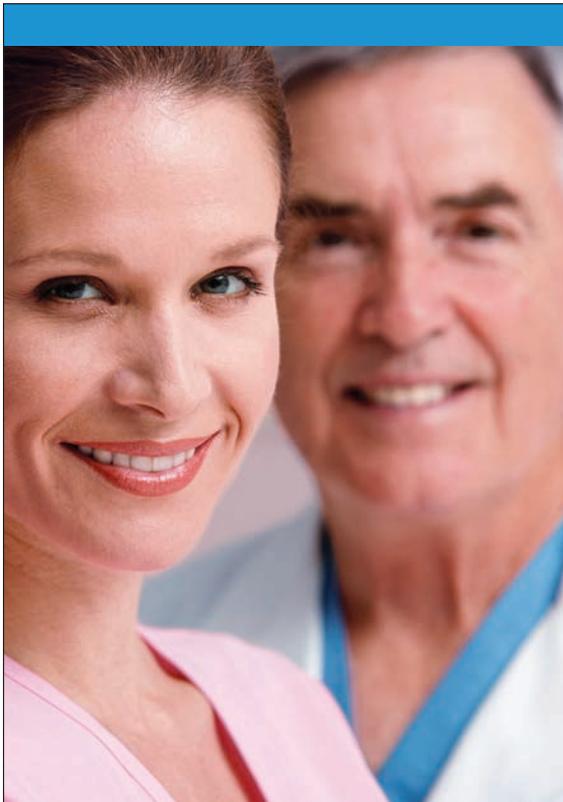
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# McDonald's Makes a McDifference

by Gary Lawler

In 1978, when a customer told the manager of a McDonald's in Pleasant Grove that she was disappointed in how they handled a birthday party, he asked what she would do differently. When she described how she often entertained her own children with costumes and sets, he hired her to be a clown at birthday parties at his site, and "Jingles" was born.

She later connected with Larry Ingram, 25-year owner of the McDonald's at Jim Miller and I-30. Ingram's big heart and community spirit matched Jingles, and she became his Public Relations Services agent.

As a result, the McDonalds at I-30 and Jim Miller is devoted to serving the people of Far East Dallas. Whether it's providing cookies and door prizes for Bayles Elementary School's 50th anniversary celebration, hosting a Blue Cross/Blue Shield Caravan for free immunizations for children, or providing 3 meals a day for 300 Hurricane Katrina refugees, McDonald's provides tremendous community benefits to the children, families, and schools of Far East Dallas.

Ingram's McDonald's is a committed member of FRI. "FRI helps build community awareness about the needs of schools, senior citizens, and businesses which helps us to provide better community services," says Jingles.



Jingles (back row, center) and a group of S.S. Conner students at a reading event sponsored by McDonalds

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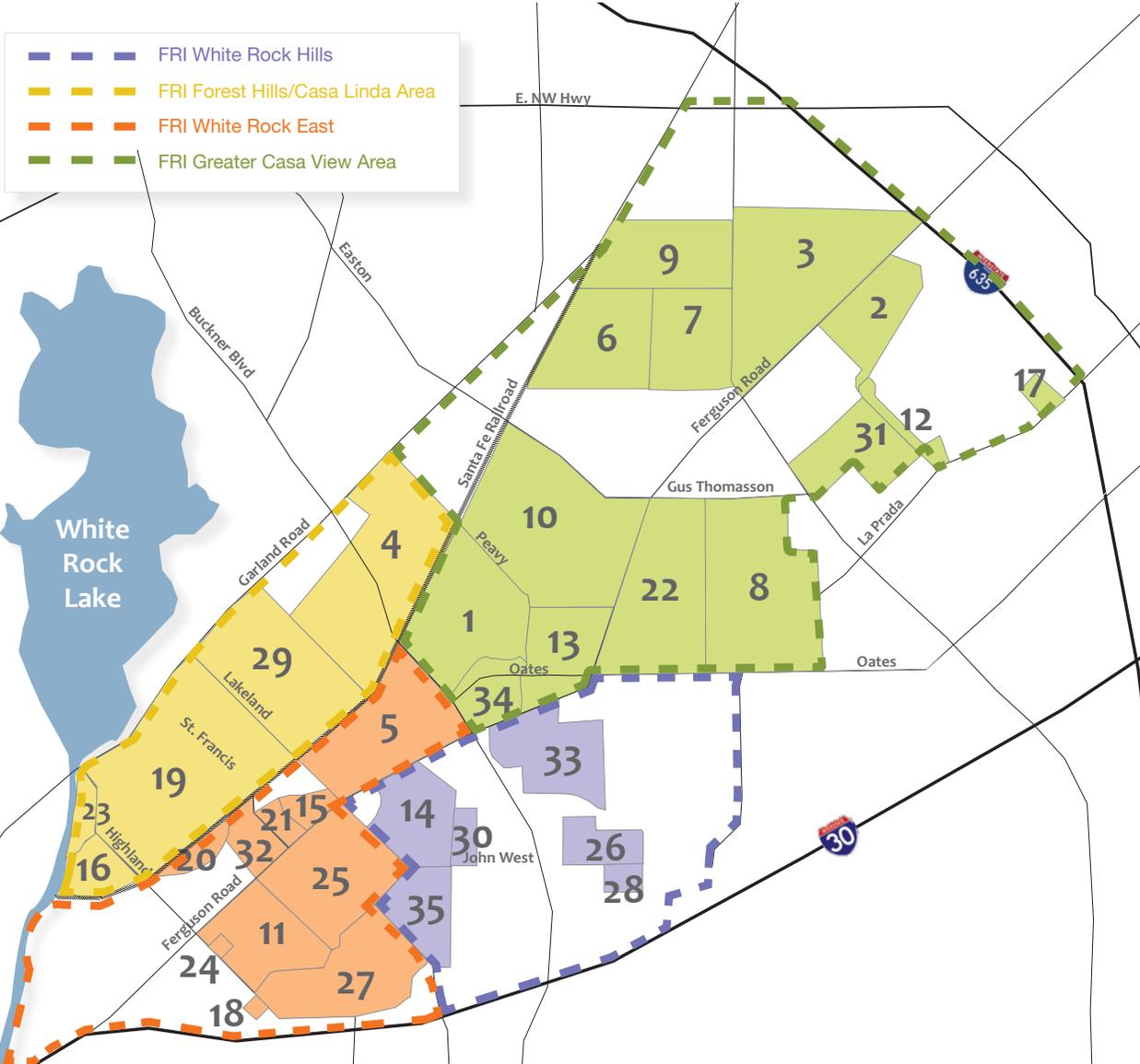
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# Find Your Neighborhood, and Get Plugged In!

## Far East Dallas Neighborhoods

Neighborhood Associations (NA)  
 Homeowners Associations (HOA)  
 Owners Associations (OA)

- FRI White Rock Hills
- FRI Forest Hills/Casa Linda Area
- FRI White Rock East
- FRI Greater Casa View Area



- 1 - Alger Park/Ash Creek NA (1153)  
www.crimewatch1153.org  
214-967-5191 (Voicemail)
- 2 - Braeburn Glen CW (1132)  
www.braeburn-glen.com  
214-967-5078 (Voicemail)
- 3 - Briarwood NA (1258)  
www.brianwoodna.com
- 4 - Casa Linda Estates NA  
www.casalindaestates.com
- 5 - Casa Linda Forest NA  
214-967-5076 (Voicemail)
- 6 - Casa View Heights CW (1129)
- 7 - Casa View Heights CW (1130)  
annteague@sbcglobal.net
- 8 - Casa View Heights CW (1156)
- 9 - Casa View CW 1115
- 10 - Casa View Haven NA (1135)  
www.casaviewhaven.org
- 11 - Claremont Addition NA (1199)  
214-967-5065 (Voicemail)  
claremontaddition@sbcglobal.net  
www.claremontaddition.org
- 12 - Club Manor NA  
clubmanorhoa@yahoo.com
- 13 - Crestview Park NA
- 14 - Eastwood Hills NA  
info@eastwoodhillsdallas.com
- 15 - Enclave at Ash Creek HOA
- 16 - Enclave at White Rock HOA
- 17 - Fairway Estates HOA
- 18 - Forest Creek OA
- 19 - Forest Hills Association  
www.foresthillsdallas.org
- 20 - Forest Meade HOA
- 21 - Forest Oaks NA
- 22 - Harry Stone CW  
www.harrystonecw.org
- 23 - Highland on the Creek
- 24 - Highlands Apartments CW
- 25 - Hillridge CW  
214-967-5080 (Voicemail)  
Hillridge1198cwa@yahoo.com
- 26 - Hillview Terrace NA  
214-967-5160 (Voicemail)
- 27 - Lakeland Hills CW  
214-967-5084 (Voicemail)
- 28 - Light Pointe Place HOA
- 29 - Little Forest Hills NA  
214-967-5096 (Voicemail)
- 30 - Skyline Heights CW
- 31 - St. Andrews CW  
jessicayoung@me.com
- 32 - Stonegate at Forest Hills
- 33 - Truett CW  
www.truettareacw.org
- 34 - White Rock Forest NA
- 35 - White Rock Village CW  
info@neighborhoodlink.com/  
whiterockvillage  
214-967-5190 (Voicemail)