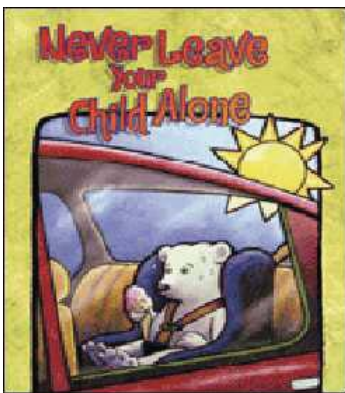




We're Rising. Welcome to the latest issue of FRI's newest e-communication tool - NewsFlash. This *quarterly* e-newsletter is designed to keep you informed of the latest news and events, while offering insight into FRI's efforts toward complete Economic Revitalization of the White Rock Hills community. Enjoy!



Don't be the next headline on the news! Never leave a child or pet in your car unattended even for a few minutes.



This year's DEFY Camp is scheduled for the week of July 26th at Ft. Worth's Joint Reserve Naval Air



RE: DonorBridge (www.donorbridgetx.org) to match donations to the Ferguson Road Initiative on May 20, 2009

As supporters and advocates of the Ferguson Road Initiative (FRI), we want to tell you about an incredible opportunity to help our community and FRI earn dollar-for-dollar matching funds. On Wednesday, May 20, we can double our contributions to FRI thus continuing our mission of:

- Decreasing crime to make our streets and homes safer
- Beautifying our community
- Implementing economic development and capital bond improvement projects to rebuild our neighborhoods
- Increasing social service, educational and recreational opportunities for all

The Communities Foundation of Texas and The Dallas Foundation are combining forces to offer a one-time matching grant opportunity to celebrate the launch of DonorBridge, a new online resource for donors who give to North Texas nonprofits. Here's what we need to do to double our contributions to FRI:

1. Mark Wednesday, May 20, 2009 on our calendars.
2. First thing on Wednesday, May 20, visit www.donorbridgetx.org and make a contribution to the Ferguson Road Initiative. The Communities Foundation of Texas and The Dallas Foundation will match dollar-for-dollar all individual donations between \$25 and \$2,500!

In light of this year's hurting economy, our contributions are essential. FRI, on our behalf, is doing critical work for many of the poorest and most vulnerable in far East Dallas. Demand for FRI's services is at an all-time high, yet funding is scarce.

Station. Seventy children for Dallas/Ft. Worth's seven Weed & Seed communities will spend a week as guests of the United States Navy, the U.S. Department of Justice and Weed & Seed. FRI still needs to raise money to support our campers. Special thanks to the North Texas Crime Commission, Baylor Hospital Police Department and many others who have already come forward to help. If you know someone who can help, please call us with the information.



UPDATE YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Visit FRI's newly re-engineered website at www.fergusonroad.org to get a membership application and learn more about FRI programs and services. FRI's board has also just launched our annual fundraising campaign. We need your support, please consider the FRI in your charitable contribution plans.



High Cost of Energy Getting you Down?

The maximum matching funds available per organization through this special one-time offer is \$25,000. Let's raise the full \$25,000 and turn it into \$50,000! Let's show our support for the critical work FRI is doing in our neighborhoods by going to www.donorbridgetx.org on Wednesday, May 20 and making a special, one-time, tax-deductible donation.

JOIN US in marking Wednesday, May 20, 2009 on our calendars. Bookmark this website: www.donorbridgetx.org, and take advantage of this unprecedented opportunity. Invest in our community by doubling our contributions to FRI, to far East Dallas, and the White Rock Hills community.

Sincerely,

Vikki J. Martin, FRI Executive Director (pro bono)

William M. Coleman, FRI President

Criminals hate good street lighting



They prefer to work in the dark. Are the street lights in your neighborhood, on your block burned out, broken or just not working? There are over 84,000 street lights in the City of Dallas. The City can use your help finding and reporting the broken or malfunctioning ones. While the City checks the lights on freeways and thoroughfares monthly, due to staffing limitations, neighborhood lights are never checked unless someone complains. If you see a light that needs repair, call

ONCOR Customer Service at 1-888-313-4747 or log on to www.oncorgroup.com/community/streetlights/default.aspx. If repairs are not completed within 10 working days, then notify the City by calling 311 - Ask for a Street Light Maintenance Service Request. Be sure to note the closest possible address in your reports and include the nature of light problem



2-Points Crime Reduction

For the first time in 10 years, there has been a reduction in violent crime in the 2-Points community. A recently released DPD report, comparing 2008 to 2007 crime stats, showed a 5% decrease in overall part-one crime and a 2.5% decrease in violent crime.

As reported at our Weed & Seed Steering Committee in March community residents applauded this breakthrough year.

The trend has continued in 2009, DPD CompStat reports significant improvements with a -24.4% reduction year-to-date in violent crime.

Special thanks to our DPD partners and active crime



You may be able to save up to 14% on your electric utility bills by simply switching to another electric provider. Switching is easy. The Texas Public Utility Commission provides comparison charts at www.PowerToChoose.org that offer you a simple and reliable source of information to help you select your energy provider.

Giving Made Easy



Here's another way you can now support your favorite charity (hopefully FRI) without spending any of your own money, just by doing something you probably already do everyday? It's a search engine that lets you direct money to any of hundreds of thousands of charities every time you do an online search, visit www.goodsearch.com register and use the GoodSearch internet search engine. Everytime you use GoodSearch, they will donate 1¢ to Ferguson Road Initiative.

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

**Are you a Member?
Need to Renew?
Have Questions?**

www.fergusonroad.org

Your support is essential

watchers. Not surprisingly, crime in neighborhoods with active crime watch saw greater reductions of crime while those without crime watch saw increases.

BAYLES KITE DAY POSTPONED

Bayles Annual Kite Day, originally scheduled for May 2nd at the Lakehill Prep Athletic Complex at 7401 Ferguson has been re-scheduled due to rain to May 16th. Hot dog lunch will be provided by the White Rock and Metro Lions Clubs. Special thanks to the volunteer students from Lakehill Prep that make this event happen and fills the skies of the Ferguson Road corridor each spring.



FRI VITA Volunteers Score a Big Return on Our Investment



Robert Phillips from the Dixon Branch neighborhood and Jennifer Baskin from Ernst & Young FRI VITA volunteers reported the following outcomes to this year's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Center: Volunteers completed 442 tax returns for 402 taxpayers

coming into our centers, including new partnerships at City Credit Union, Shiloh Terrace Baptist Church, UT Dallas, United Way, Wachovia Bank, and White Rock Hills Townhomes. Additionally, mobile clinics were provided to elderly and disabled individuals and families who couldn't come to our offices. Taxpayers received over \$643,201 in refunds, of which \$277,976 were for the Earned Income and Child tax credits. Compared to 2007, we prepared over 100 additional tax returns and brought nearly \$350,000 in additional resources back to our community. Special thanks to our volunteers from Ernst & Young, Zion Lutheran Church, UT Dallas, United Way, FRI Weed & Seed neighborhood partners, and to New Hope Lutheran for providing our primary location. Ms. Baskin, who engineered the partnership with UT Dallas, recruited and trained over 60 student volunteer tax preparers. Many thanks to our volunteers for all their hard work.

Resources for Precious Pets

Dallas Animal Shelter
Interesting Fact: Of the



to our ongoing strategy
to take back our
neighborhood from the
drug dealers, gang bangers and
other criminals
plaguing our community.

Click on the link above to
download a membership
application or contact Kerry
Goodwin
at

wscordinator@fergusonroad.org
for further information.

To learn more about the U.S.
Department of Justice -
Community Capacity
Development Office and Project
Weed & Seed, [click here](#).

**JOINT STEERING
COMMITTEE MEETING
SET**

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS

A regularly scheduled meeting of the FRI's Joint Steering Committee has been set for May 11, 7pm. Please mark your calendars today for this important meeting of the Weed & Seed Steering Committees - *White Rock Church of Christ - Fellowship Hall - 9220 Ferguson Road, Dallas, TX 75228*.

Special guests will be Michael Hellman, PARD, and Eric Van Steenburg, Executive Director of the Friends of the Katy Trail, and Tina Hageman, The Family Place. An agenda will be mailed to all members of later this week and available on our website. Also please find the minutes to our last meetings.



Place your Sponsorship Ad
here. [Contact FRI for more
information.](#)

E-mail list Inclusion/Exclusion - FRI adheres to an opt-in policy. When you provide FRI with information about yourself such as name, address, telephone, e-mail and other information, there is implied consent to receive organizational e-mails. Any individual may request to be removed from the e-mail list by simply clicking on the link below. Requests will be processed within 14 days.

To request to be removed, send an e-mail to Membership@fergusonroad.org with the words "REMOVE FROM LIST" in the subject line. To request removal by U.S. Mail, send requests to

Membership Director
Ferguson Road Initiative
P.O. Box 570417
Dallas, TX 75357-0417

dogs taken in by Dallas

Animal Shelter at 1818 N. Westmoreland, at least 1/3 are purebreds. Beautiful cats and kittens are also available.

Adoption cost is minimal and includes shots, spay/neutering, and a chip. Call **214-671-0315** to find out if your animal has been impounded. For adoption info call **214-671-0249** or visit www.petfinder.com/shelters/TX236.html.

Metroplex Animal Coalition lists info on low cost spay/neutering, low cost vaccinations, veterinarians, clinics and resources. Learn more at www.metroplexanimalcoalition.com.

East Lake Pet Orphanage near us has animals for adoption. Learn more at www.welovepets.net, or call **214-342-3100**.

Consider this: 8-12 million cats and dogs enter shelters each year and 5-9 million are euthanized. This costs tax payers \$2 billion. We must be responsible pet owners.

Lost Pets: If you are a member of CLFNA, use the CLFNA e-mail group to locate or report a lost pet in our area.