

White Lake Hills

News Splash

Jack White Memorial July 4th Parade and Picnic

When: Monday, July 4, 2016 at 10 am. Parade line up at Green River and Chandler Lake at 9:45 am.

Participate: Decorate a family float! Decorate your bike! Drive a classic car! Walk the 1.4-mile route! Veterans will be in marked cars.

Watch: Line the parade route (see map) to watch a fire truck, your neighbors and more.

Special Ceremonies: At Smith Wilemon Park immediately following the parade we will have a special recognition ceremony for the Vietnam-era veterans. Also, White Lake Hills will receive Blue Zones Project recognition.

Soo Green River Trail O Sougher take Rd Souther Take Rd

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Save the Date

Parade/Picnic

July 4th

Picnic at Smith-Wilemon Park

Summer Meeting

July 11th 7:00 pm Nolan Catholic High School Auditorium

Fall Meeting

October 10th 7:00 pm Nolan Catholic High School Auditorium

Lining up for the Parade Participants

We had so many participants last year – cars and drivers, kids, and animals - that this year, all **vehicles in the parade should avoid driving up Green River Trail for the line-up**. Please drive down to St Lawrence, come up Blue Lake Drive, Turn onto Candlewood, Right onto Lake Havasu, and then Right onto Chandler Lake. From Chandler Lake, turn left onto Green River Trail, turn around in the cul-de-sac at the very end, and then start lining up behind the intersection with Chandler Lake.

The earlier elements (firetruck, Sons of the American Revolution, etc) will line up on GRT below Lake Charles North and the kids will gather below a big shade tree at 508 Green river as they did last year.



President's Letter by Fred Fernandez President's Letter by Fred Fernandez

My first quarter as WLHNA President has been more interesting and challenging than I expected. For those of you that haven't read the news on Nextdoor since early May and missed some of the news on TV and local papers during this time, you may be wondering why. I am referring to a proposed change of zoning application ZC-16-096. The purpose of this zoning application is or was to allow a concrete crushing facility to be installed next to the Chesapeake site on First Street. This site is located across from what will be Gateway Park. It would bring with it fifty 80,000 lb heavy industrial rock hauling trucks traveling our nearby streets on a daily and permanent basis.

Since late April when we first learned of this proposed zoning change, we met with the applicant early on at my home. The applicant agreed to make a second presentation at town hall type forum that was open to the East Fort Worth communities to allow the broader community to come see and hear the presentation themselves. That town hall event gave us a clear and resounding mandate that supported our opposition to this zoning case and the Citizens of East Fort Worth responded to a letter-writing campaign and flooded City Hall with a thousand letters and emails and petitions with over 1,400 signatures. The applicant has since submitted a letter to withdraw this zoning application in light of the strong opposition. Yet, since the request came after the posting on the zoning Commission docket, we are currently proceeding from the zoning Commission hearing where the Commission voted unanimously to recommend a straight denial of this case. The upcoming City council hearing is scheduled for the June 21, 2016. There we hope, with the help of strong community presence, to encourage the Council and Mayor to follow the recommendation of the Zoning Commission and our request that they, in fact, vote for the more restrictive straight denial of one year before the applicant would be allowed to re-file for this same type of zoning change.

An alliance of some thirty neighborhood and home owners associations give East Fort Worth a strong voice that is united against this type of heavy industrial type zoning near our residential communities, schools, and parks. This effort owes much to our own executive committee, Nolan Catholic High School, the Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth, and especially Alex Jimenez president East Fort Worth Inc. who helped form a committee opposing this zoning case. This committee is now referred to as East Fort Worth Pride. Its purpose is to address issues important to a vision of renewal of East Fort Worth and to support initiatives toward that vision or oppose issues that are incompatible with that vision.

Today we have an East Fort Worth Alliance that consists of 33 active Neighborhood /Home Owners Associations. This Alliance gives East Fort Worth a strong voice in city affairs and, if used wisely, can influence city policies and decisions that will have a lasting effect on our vision for the East Fort Worth Communities, better than any single neighborhood or home owners association can do alone. The East Fort Worth committee to oppose this zoning case was made up of various neighborhood and home owners association presidents, representatives, Rita Vinson (president of The Fort Worth League Of Neighborhood Associations), and both cochairs Alex Jimenez (president of East Fort Worth Inc.) and myself (president of WLHNA.) Please note that there were many individual citizens who also contributed to the success of this opposition. This committee of neighborhood and home owner association presidents will continue to meet on a monthly basis to work to better ensure that East Fort Worth's future is one of renewal, for a healthier, more livable, prosperous, and vibrant east side.

Here in White Lake Hills we have much to be proud of. We have a history of strong, active, and civic-minded citizens that have nurtured this community for many years and that remains constant.

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We have much to be thankful for and encouraged by here in our WLH community and East Fort Worth with what we see with this massive investment in our area. We have the new First Street improvements from Randol Mill Road to Beach Street nearing completion. We have two new bridges and the one at the Trinity River crossing has four beautiful stainless steel art sculptures. We have the Trinity River Vision with improvements for flood control and the massive Gateway Park Master Plan construction currently underway. We have an East Fort Worth inc. Initiative called East Side Blossoms to eventually plant 2,000 blooming trees, wildflowers, and Blue Bird houses on First Street from Loop 820 to Beach Street, and eventually all the way to downtown Fort Worth, as well as both Beach Street and Oakland Blvd. from I-30 to First Street. Our Fort Worth planning Department has established a good Comprehensive Master Plan; it has a vision of renewal that we should support and want to be part of. Our City Council and Our Mayors have approved these Comprehensive plans year in and out for some time. We and our East Fort Worth alliances want to be part of that vision for a healthier, more livable, and vibrant city.

The city of Fort Worth has a Blue Zone Project and is encouraging our communities to participate. We are happy to have several families in White Lake Hills active in the Blue Zone Project and working toward certification as a Blue Zone community. These families are walking, sharing meals over the course of several weeks, and learning how to live healthier, less stressful, and happier lives.

Let's not forget that our 4th of July Parade and Picnic Celebration is rapidly approaching. We need volunteers to help make this an extra special celebration. We also need volunteers and two or three pickup trucks as well as tools to help us clean up the Smith Wilemon Park and its trails before the 4th. of July. Please contact Tommy Farquhar at tommyfarquhar@charter.net to sign up and for more information.

Last but not least, Dr. Donald Goodman, a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, has brought to our attention that The Department of Defense has created a special lapel pin to honor those men and women who served between May 1965 through September 1975 during the Korean and Vietnam era conflicts. These are the forgotten veterans who never received the warm welcome home or recognition they deserved for their sacrifice and service. Dr. Donald Goodman has chaired this effort to identify these veterans and submitted their names and applications for their service lapel pins in honor of their service. We will welcome these veterans in our 4th of July Parade and Dr. Goodman will have a special ceremony to present them their Service pins at the picnic that follows our parade. If you have a nice convertible and you would like to volunteer to help drive them in our parade please contact Linda Fulmer. A very special thank you goes out to our Dr. Donald Goodman for bringing this to our attention, chairing this event, caring for, and respecting these military service veterans.

The trails at Smith Wilemon Park have overgrown a bit, a little bit of trash, and a couple of tree limbs that have fallen over the trail. We need a few volunteers with tree trimmers, chain saws, and two or three pickup trucks to help us clean up the park and its trails before the 4th of July. Please contact Tommy Farquhar at tommyfarquhar@charter.net

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A special thank you goes to the planning committee, to my executive committee, and all the volunteers that have helped in so many different ways. It is your generous support that maintains this community and makes it a special place to call home.

I encourage our other community citizens to get involved, volunteer, and help us become an even stronger and a more vibrant community. Come and join us at the WLHNA Quarterly meeting at Nolan Catholic High School in the auditorium and see what it's all about.

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Market Update for WLH 2016 I wanted to do an updated report on how neighborhood sales have done over the past 90 days. I do not identify individual home sale prices, out of respect for the owner's privacy. We have just 3 active listings, from \$70.32--\$109.28 SqFt.; three listings are under contract, with an average list price of \$85.69 SqFt.; six homes sold for the average price of \$93.02 SqFt. The homes selling at the highest prices, are well-maintained with modest, or smart updates, and great yards. A cared-for home will be a solid seller. Ask a Texas Realtor about keeping up the value of your home!

Upsize, Downsize, I'll Make Sure Your Home is the Right Size For You!

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Get Ready for the

Where we live, seasonal changes in temperature and moisture can cause a variety of home problems. June is already showing off the Texas weather two-step! If you are thinking about new plantings in your garden, speak to a knowledgeable garden center expert, about native plants, as well as drought-



Summer Season

tolerant ones. Protect your home by watering your foundation, trim trees and bushes away from your home and the roof, so they are not a pathway for ants, spiders, and other insects. If you need help, or referrals for help, sign up for NextDoor.com!

It's a great FREE resource!

