

# Riverside Pride

FEBRUARY 2024

A PUBLICATION OF THE CARTER-RIVERSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

FEBRUARY 2024

## CRNA Fall & Winter Events 2023

BOOON

THE BRAE



## Christmas in Riverside



More pictures can be viewed at [CRNAFWTX.com](http://CRNAFWTX.com)

Spanish translation available at [CRNAFWTX.com](http://CRNAFWTX.com)

# Carter Riverside Neighborhood Association

## What is it all about?

Carter Riverside Neighborhood Association (CRNA) was organized in 1995 to foster and promote the quality of life in Riverside, and to protect, preserve and promote our beautiful community.

CRNA does this in several ways, including hosting monthly meetings where a variety of speakers and guests educate the attendees on a myriad of issues, from Code Compliance to neighborhood policing to caring for our trees to our community history and much, much more. We regularly host our City Council and FWISD School Board representatives and in recent years have hosted Mayor Betsy Price and Mayor Mattie Parker.

CRNA sponsors events throughout the year as a way of building community morale and providing social events where Riverside neighbors can interact and get to know each other. Some of these events include:

- ★ National Night Out at Carter Riverside Bandstand Pavilion
- ★ “Boo on the Brae” Halloween event on Bonnie Brae Boulevard
- ★ CRNA Thanksgiving Celebration
- ★ Christmas Social
- ★ Christmas in Riverside at Carter Riverside Bandstand Pavilion
- ★ Coffee With The Cops\*
- ★ July 4th Celebration
- ★ CRNA vs Oakhurst NA Kickball Game

With the goal to protect, preserve and promote Riverside, CRNA representatives have:

- appeared at countless zoning hearings to oppose zoning changes that would have negative outcomes for Riverside, such as allowing commercial and industrial encroachment into our residential areas
- worked with TABC and City Hall to prevent game rooms and bars from opening in our residential areas and outside commercial thoroughfares
- successfully opposed the construction of three, 4-story Amazon type warehouses on Beach Street
- worked with FWISD on the \$49 million addition to Carter Riverside High School and preservation of the urban forest on the west side of the school campus
- worked with City of Fort Worth to achieve the “road diet” on Riverside Drive which has helped reduce speeding and reckless driving
- currently lobbying City of Fort Worth to construct a new community center and water feature in Sylvania Park
- currently working with City of Fort Worth for improvements at the Six Points intersection to include traffic signal improvements, crosswalks, new striping and other improvements

These are just a few of the ways CRNA seeks to improve our quality of life in Riverside. As they say, it takes a village and CRNA needs your support to continue this important work. To become a member of CRNA and keep these efforts going, send your \$12 dues to CRNA, P.O. Box 7153, Fort Worth, TX, 76111 OR send dues via Zelle to CRNAFWTX@gmail.com. Don't forget to visit our website at CRNAFWTX.com

***THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!!***

# NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

CRNA celebrated 40 years of National Night Out on October 3 at the Carter Riverside Bandstand Pavilion.



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# Thank you!

## TO OUR CRNA EVENT COORDINATORS

National Night Out – Naomi Dillard

Boo On The Brae – Jennifer Nicholson

Thanksgiving Celebration Dinner – Martha and Richard Linnartz

Christmas in Riverside – Evelyne Miller

Adopt A Family – Cathy Seifert

**Special thanks to NAOMI DILLARD** for her constant work and vigilance in Riverside. With dogged determination, she has had the City of Fort Worth trim the trees in the median at Beach and 121, had “road pillows” to calm traffic on Primrose adjacent to new Carter High School parking lot, and maintained pressure on the City to demolish the former Grandy’s on Beach Street. For these and many other reasons, Naomi has been nominated as “Fort Worth Neighbor of the Year” and the winner will be announced at the Mayor’s Neighborhood Awards on March 2.



## 2023 CRNA Angel Tree Family Adoption through Carter-Riverside High School

CRNA members and friends generously collected \$943 to provide clothing, small gifts and other essentials for a single parent family of five children. The family had been living in a motel but were recently able to move into a home, so \$350 of our gift was in the form of gift cards that could be used to help with supplies for their new home.

Thank you to all who participated in this heart-warming activity!



**Lions Club International**

Fort Worth Riverside Lions Club

Member \_\_\_\_\_

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Fort Worth TX 76111

Ph: \_\_\_\_\_

## FORT WORTH CITY BAND

February 27th • 6:30-8pm  
New Riverside UMC Sanctuary  
Refreshments afterwards.



In honor of Black History Month, CRNA recognizes Green and Charlotte Loyd, early settlers in what is today the Riverside community. The Loyds were formerly enslaved and came from Kentucky to the Birdville area (part of present-day Haltom City) with the white Loyd family. Following emancipation, Green Loyd engaged in farming and stock raising (cattle and horses) near Elliot Reeder Road. In 1885 the Loyds purchased a 10 acre tract in a rural area west of Birdville and northeast of downtown Fort Worth. Today this 10 acres is the site of Browning Court, Aster Court and part of Robinwood Drive, and was roughly bordered by Springdale Road, Dry Branch Creek and Robinwood Drive. In the late 1880s, when Tarrant County commissioners wanted to build the road that is today called Springdale Road, the Loyds donated part of the right of way for the road on the edge of their property, thereby providing more convenient access to their homeplace.

The Loyds were prosperous and active in the African-American communities in Birdville and Riverside and were faithful members of Corinth Baptist Church, which was established in the 1880s and is still an active congregation today. The Loyd children married into other land-owning Black families and settled nearby, including in the Garden of Eden community south of Birdville. Following the deaths of Green and Charlotte Loyd, their heirs sold their property to William Fleming in 1921, but it was another 25+ years before the property was developed for residential use. The Loyds have many descendants in Riverside, the Garden of Eden, and elsewhere, including Brenda Sanders-Wise, Executive Director of the Tarrant County Black Historical and Genealogical Society and Lenora Rolla Heritage Museum and well-known journalist and celebrity Bob Ray Sanders.



**Welcome To**

## Gwin Grimes

New Branch Manager at  
Riverside Library  
beginning February 27

Gwin is currently Branch Manager at the Golden Triangle Branch Library in far North Fort Worth. She is also a Riverside resident and says she is looking forward to a two-minute commute to work!

### COMING NEXT ISSUE:

Hundreds of Riverside homes destroyed and families displaced.

# "I Know Now That Their Deaths Came Quickly"

1964 sensational kidnapping and horrific murders rocked Riverside and all of Fort Worth.

Two brothers, David and Dickie, possibly would be grandfathers now, possibly looking forward to retirement, possibly noticing a touch of gray in the bathroom mirror in the mornings. Instead they are the two sons who will forever be babies to their mother Carolyn. She was the daughter of Herbert and Vanoy Hungerford. Mr. Hungerford was a Fort Worth police officer. Carolyn had attended Trimble Technical High School.

In 1964 Carolyn was twenty, separated from her husband, and the mother of two sons: Dickie, two, and David, one. She and her sons lived in a duplex on Blevins Street in the Riverside area. She attended night school at Trimble Tech. Mr. and Mrs. Hungerford were divorced. Carolyn's mother, Vanoy Hungerford, lived in the

rear apartment at 3736 Maurice Street (still standing) on the southern edge of Sylvania Park in Riverside. Mother and daughter lived just ten blocks apart. Mrs. Hungerford babysat Dickie and David when Carolyn worked during the day and attended classes at night.

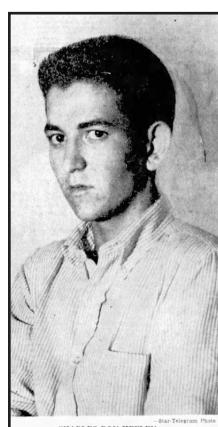
Charles Roy Hefley Jr., 16, was a junior at Carter-Riverside High School. He lived with his mother and stepfather on Harper Street eight blocks from Mrs. Hungerford. Charles was described by classmates as "pushy," a "smart-aleck." He had a history of lying and stealing, had lived two years in the Tarrant County Juvenile Home. But one classmate of Hefley would later say, "You could line up a thousand kids, and Charles would be the last one you'd pick out as a criminal." Hefley's classmates also described him with two other terms: "impulsive" and "remorseful." In a matter of seconds on a warm night in September 1964, Charles Roy Hefley would be both.

Late on September 10, Hefley was walking down Maurice Street by Sylvania Park. By the dim light of a streetlamp he saw a foot-long iron pipe lying at the curb. He picked up the pipe and hefted it in his hand. It was blunt and heavy, unlike the paring knife in his back pocket. He walked on. He saw a car parked in front of the house at 3736 Maurice Street. He decided

to steal the car. But then he watched a young woman walk out of the apartment behind the house and get into the car. As she was about to pull away from the curb, he stepped to the driver's-side door, shoved the paring knife through the open window, and held it against the woman's ribs. Before Carolyn Adams could scream, at the tip of the knife blade Hefley forced her to move over, got into the driver's seat, and placed the new-found pipe on the seat beside him. Up close, he recognized the woman. Hefley said to her: "I know you from the [Sylvania Park] pool." Carolyn did not recognize him. Hefley pulled away from the curb. He later recalled: "I was just going to steal her car, but she came out of the house . . . so I didn't know anything else to do but take her with me." He had committed not only grand theft auto but also kidnapping.

For Charles Roy Hefley, it got worse. He had not driven far before he realized that he and his kidnap victim were not alone: two baby boys were lying asleep on the rear seat, one in training pants, the other in a diaper. Carolyn Adams had placed sons Dickie and David on the back seat before Hefley had spotted her leaving her mother's house. Hefley had kidnapped a family, not just a woman. Rather than abandon his busted plot, he doubled down: Frightened, he drove on into the night. Even more frightened was the young mother who shrank from him against the front passenger door.

Hefley drove out East First Street toward the edge of town and the ever-more-isolated roads of the Trinity River bottoms. After eight miles and an interminable dozen minutes, Mrs. Adams felt the car slow. Hefley pulled the car off Randol Mill Road near Precinct Line Road just south of the river. Hefley marched Mrs. Adams at knife point into the woods along the river. Mrs. Adams started screaming, and Hefley hit her on the head with the pipe. Then, to grand theft auto and kidnapping, Charles Roy Hefley added the crime of rape.



CHARLES ROY HEFLEY  
Star-Telegram Photo

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Then Charles Roy Hefley sabotaged himself: he told his victim his name. He also reminded her that she knew his sister. Now Hefley said to Carolyn: "I guess you know I'm going to have to kill you to keep you quiet." Carolyn recalled: "I tried to reason with him. He was very calm and apologetic about having to murder me. I pleaded with him, and then he stuck a knife to my chest. He asked me, 'How would you like for me to stick this knife in your heart?'" Beaten and raped, she begged him to take her to a hospital. He refused. "God forgive you then," she said, and began screaming. Hefley recalled: "I lost my head and started stabbing her with the knife. When it broke, I threw the blade in the bushes and used the pipe until she stopped screaming". Carolyn recalled: "He stabbed me in the eye. I don't remember anything after the first few stabs."

Then, to grand theft auto, kidnapping, and rape Charles Roy Hefley added the ultimate crime. He walked back to the Hungerford car, where Dickie and David Adams were sleeping. One by one he carried the two baby boys to the river and threw them in. Then Hefley drove away. He parked the Hungerford car a half-block from Mrs. Hungerford's house. He then met two friends at the Lone Star Drive-In coffee shop on East Belknap Street (now a bar called "Fortys and Shortys"). Then Charles Roy Hefley went home to bed.

Meanwhile in the Trinity River bottoms, Carolyn Adams had regained consciousness. Her attacker was gone. Her car was gone. More ominously, her children were gone. As dawn broke she heard traffic and crawled on her hands and knees—beaten, bleeding, half-blind—toward the sounds. Meanwhile, on Friday morning Charles Roy Hefley went to classes at Carter-Riverside High School. Classmates later recalled that he betrayed no hint of his night of crime. As Charles Roy Hefley was attending class, about nine o'clock Friday morning Carolyn Adams was found by two men searching for stray cows along the river. She had managed to crawl only a short distance from where Hefley had attacked her. "Help me," was all she had the strength to say to the two men.

Charles Roy Hefley had left Carolyn Adams for dead. And his assessment very nearly was correct. She was admitted to John Peter Smith Hospital in extremely critical condition. A physician gave her only a twenty-five percent chance of living. She had been beaten. She had fourteen stab wounds to her head and chest. One foot was almost severed. She probably would lose her left eye. After Carolyn Adams was able to talk to police investigators later on September 11, they began two searches: to find her children and to find her attacker.

Before noon searchers began to comb the tall grass and thick underbrush of the crime scene. They dragged the river in boats. Divers searched the murky water. Men searched on foot and on horseback. Overhead a helicopter was an eye in the sky. Searchers were hampered by rain. When night fell they continued with floodlights. Meanwhile, in her hospital bed Carolyn Adams muttered to a nurse the words "Diane and Barbara Hefland" but nothing else. The nurse notified police. A detective said to Mrs. Adams: "If these [two] names have anything to do with who did this to you, squeeze my hand." She took his hand and squeezed. At Mrs. Hungerford's home on Maurice Street, three detectives asked Mrs. Hungerford about the names. She said she thought the Hefland sisters had a younger brother, but she did not know his first name or whereabouts. An acquaintance of Carolyn told the detectives that a girl named "Hefley" had a brother who hung out at Lone Star Drive-In on East Belknap Street but she did not know his first name. At the restaurant the detectives questioned carhops, who knew only that the brother's first name was "Charles" and that "he lives around here someplace" – on Harper Street as it turned out.

Hefley was not surprised by his arrest. He admitted everything: kidnapping, rape, murder. After midnight he guided police investigators to the river and showed them where he had thrown the two infants into the river. With that information, searchers—now numbering more than one hundred—focused on a stretch of the river downstream from the crime scene. After a search of more than twenty hours, the two bodies were found snagged on the limbs of a submerged tree in the river east of Precinct Line Road. The story was news from coast to coast.

On September 14 Dickie and David Adams were buried at Mount Olivet Cemetery. Meanwhile at John Peter Smith Hospital, Carolyn Adams—the only survivor of what Sheriff Lon Evans called the worst crime in the county that he could remember—kept asking about her two sons. Family members had avoided telling her while her condition was so critical. But her father recalled: "She sensed something was wrong. She knew we had a reason for evading her questions." Finally her physician told her. Her fear confirmed, the victim comforted those who had gathered to comfort her. "Everything is going to be all right," she kept telling family members through the bandages covering her face. Coping with her loss, Carolyn spoke of her mental stress as she had imagined that her two sons were being tortured and mutilated by Hefley. "Until they told me [that her sons were dead], I imagined everything. I could see him doing to my little babies what he had done to me. But I know now that their deaths came quickly, and I know that they are in heaven now—that's what's pulled me through."

On September 30 Carolyn Adams, after eighteen days, left the hospital and went home to an empty house. She had undergone extensive surgery, including plastic surgery. She wore a wig because her head had been shaved. She wore the eyepatch that she would wear the rest of her life. Meanwhile, Charles Roy Hefley on December 1 turned seventeen while in jail awaiting trial. He was charged with one count of rape and two counts of murder. Because he had committed the crimes before age seventeen he could be assessed a life sentence but not the death penalty.

The mental state of Charles Roy Hefley quickly became an issue. At a sanity hearing for Hefley, the DA recommended that the jury

find Hefley insane and that Hefley be committed to Rusk State Hospital. The jury found Hefley to be insane. During the next nine years Charles Roy Hefley would undergo psychiatric treatment and examination at Rusk State Hospital. Five times Rusk staff would certify him as sane; five times a jury in district court would find him to still be insane. In 1974, Charles Roy Hefley was released from Rusk State Hospital after a three-judge federal court ordered the release of inmates who had been certified as sane by hospital doctors.

*Adapted from an article by the late Mike Nichols in his blog "Hometown By Handlebar". To read the full article with many illustrations go to: "I Know Now That Their Deaths Came Quickly" / Hometown by Handlebar*





February 2024



December 2023



November 2023



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