ETNP News

A Save Elm Thicket Publication Serving ETNP

LONG-AWAITED HISTORICAL MARKER COMING SOON TO ETNP NEIGHBORHOOD

"Long, long overdue," "This is great news," and "I am so happy I get to see Ellum Thicket recognized" are some of the expressions used by K. B. Polk legacy residents when shown a picture of the Texas Historical Marker commemorating the Elm Thicket/Northpark Neighborhood that will be coming soon.

While the unveiling ceremony is still being planned, paperwork shows the marker being placed at the Community Development Corporation (CDC) office at 4619 W. University Blvd.

"The history of Elm
Thicket/Northpark must be
remembered and
celebrated," said District 6
Councilmember Omar
Narvaez, "I am thankful
that the State of Texas
historical marker will be
around for generations to
come. Together, we will
continue to build upon
that history."

"This historical marker will pay tribute to and help preserve the legacy of the residents who helped the neighborhood grow from a small agricultural community into a resilient, close-knit African American community in

ELM THICKET / NORTHPARK NEIGHBORHOOD

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Final casting of ETNP Historical Marker now ready for placement. Photo courtesy of Texas Historical Commission.

(the) City of Dallas," said District 2 Councilmember Jesse Moreno in a letter of support to the Texas Historical Commission on April 7, 2022.

When the dedication date is set, ETNP News will communicate the information so everyone can attend and celebrate this wonderful event together. VOLUME 2, ISSUE 3 © 2024



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ETNP News: Message from the Publisher

Hello ETNP Neighbors:

We hope this finds you and your families all well and looking forward to the promise Spring brings to all of us. Yes, for many of us, that will mean allergies but Spring also brings us flowers and warmer weather for us to enjoy and appreciate. It only seems appropriate that March kicks off a lot of activity in our beloved neighborhood. Time to shake off the winter greys and step back into color.

We have a calendar of events on the inside of this edition regarding activities that will benefit young and old in Elm Thicket/Northpark. Chair Yoga is coming to the K. B. Polk Recreation Center and then there is the annual Easter Egg Roll which will be sponsored by the City of Dallas Parks and Rec Department and the Elm Thicket/Northpark Neighborhood Association.

Then for those teens who want to attend their school's prom and are in need of formal clothes to attend, there is the Fairy Tale Closet. We just learned about this program and thought it was brilliant.

And once again, we have included everything you need to know about voting in the primaries



this upcoming Tuesday, March 5. Save Elm Thicket and ETNP News are committed to ensuring that residents of our neighborhood have all the information they need to cast their ballot.

The Elm Thicket/Northpark neighborhood has always been a Democratic stronghold and we have never shied away from having our collective voices heard. For many of our legacy residents, they fought hard during the Civil Rights Era to ensure they and future generations could vote unencumbered. As the child of refugees who fled Communist rule, my parents instilled in me that there is nothing more important than casting your ballot for leaders that best reflect your values.

So this year, especially this year, Save Elm Thicket and ETNP News will provide our readers with all the information they need on candidates, voting places, deadlines, and then help to turn out the vote for the Elm Thicket/Northpark neighborhood.

We owe it to not only the legacy residents who fought hard for that right but for the generations that will come after us. Our collective strength as a neighborhood comes from all of us turning out to vote. Politicians pay attention to the numbers. So please, reach out to your friends and family and make sure they have a

plan to vote and if they need a ride, please reach out to us and we will make sure they get to the polls.

Wishing you all a safe and fun month of March.

Mimi Perez

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Important March 5 Primary Voting Information

"The right to vote is precious, almost sacred. It is the most powerful nonviolent tool or instrument in a democratic society. We must use it." – Georgia Congressman John Lewis (July 2016).

ETNP News could not agree more with the sentiments of the late U.S. Rep. Lewis. Everyone is encouraged to make every effort to vote and the information provided should help our Elm Thicket/Northpark (ETNP) neighbors use the voting booth to make our voices heard to our elected leaders.

Two Voting Locations within ETNP

The ETNP Neighborhood has two polling locations to choose from:

- 4619 W University Blvd. (North Park Community Corp)
- 6911 Victoria Ave. (K. B. Polk Vanguard Center)

You can vote at any polling location in Dallas County and there are several other locations nearby:



- 5314 Boaz St. (Henry W. Longfellow Career Exploration Academy)
- 4518 Pomona Rd. (Sudie L. Williams TAG Academy)
- 8200 Devonshire Dr. (Westminster Presbyterian Church)

Voting on Election Day begins at 7 a.m. and goes until 7 p.m. Those in line before 7 p.m. will not be turned away from voting. For more information, go to the Dallas County Elections Department website (<u>click here</u>).

Free Rides to the Polls

Getting to the polling locations is also easy if you do not have your own transportation. DART is offering free transportation to/from the polls via their buses, trains and GoLink vehicles. To ride free on Election Day, riders must show a valid voter registration card. GoLink riders can use promo code VOTE35 at checkout for a complimentary Adult Local Day Pass in the DART GoPass app.

Democrats and Progressives can also get a free rideshare to the polling locations to cast their ballots (similar to an Uber/Lyft rideshare). Go to https://rideshare2vote.com/ for more information on this nationally-used program. You can download an app for your smartphone or use the web form to schedule a ride to and from your home on Election Day.

Save Elm Thicket has also put out a call for volunteer drivers to help with rides within our ETNP neighborhood on Election Day. Contact saveetnp@gmail.com to see when these volunteers are available.

Important March 5 Voting Information (From Page 3)

Curbside Voting

As noted in our February issue of ETNP News, a Curbside Voting Service is available during Election Day to any voter who is physically unable to enter the polling place without personal assistance or has a likelihood of injury if they attempt to enter the polling place.

If you have an assistant with you, have them notify the election official when you arrive at the polling location. The election official will then bring everything you need to your vehicle outside the polling location. If you do not have an assistant, please call 469-627-8683 ahead of time to notify the Election Day clerk that you want to vote curbside. A physical limitation should never stop someone from casting their vote.



Sample Ballots Available

If you would like to see what your sample ballot will look like on Election Day, you can go to the Dallas County Elections Department website (<u>click here</u>) and enter your voter information to get your specific ballot for your precinct.

Save Elm Thicket is endorsing all Democratic Party candidates and has a Democratic Primary sample ballot on our Save Elm Thicket website at www.save-etnp.com under the "Helpful Resources" tab (click here to view the ballot).

Información Importante para la Votación del 5 de Marzo

El Vecindario ETNP tiene dos lugares de votación para elegir:

- 4619 W University Blvd. (North Park Community Corp)
- 6911 Victoria Ave. (K. B. Polk Vanguard Center)

La votación el día de las elecciones comienza a las 7 a.m. y dura hasta las 7 p.m. Los que hacen fila antes de las 7 p.m. no se le impedirá votar. Para obtener más información, visite el sitio web del Departamento de Elecciones del Condado de Dallas (<u>haga clic aquí</u>).

Llegar a los lugares de votación también es fácil si no tienes tu propio transporte. DART ofrece transporte gratuito hacia y desde las urnas a través de sus autobuses, trenes y vehículos GoLink. Para viajar gratis el día de las elecciones, los pasajeros deben mostrar una tarjeta de registro de votante válida. Los pasajeros de GoLink pueden usar el código de promoción VOTE35 al finalizar la compra para obtener un pase diario local para adultos de cortesía en la aplicación DART GoPass.

Update on Possible Construction Violation at 6714 Tyree Street

In the February 2024 issue of ETNP News, we called out a possible violation at 6714 Tyree Street. The artist rendering depicted a 2-story, flat-roof design on the construction site sign. This was reported to the City of Dallas Development Services Department. Had it been built looking like the artist rendering, the house would have been in violation of the current zoning standards.

Thank you to the neighbor who notified Save Elm Thicket who then contacted the city on their behalf. The City of Dallas apparently contacted the builder and they were forced to change the design to a hip and gable roof type. Save Elm Thicket is still in the process of communicating with the city to ensure the builder is also in full compliance with the height and lot-coverage restrictions.

If you see other possible violations, you can follow these steps:

- 1. Record the address and the suspected violation (for example, 1234 ABC Street, 2-Story Flat Roof being built).
- 2. Contact the Building Inspection Permit Center at (214) 948-4480 (M-F, 8 am 4:30 pm) and provide the information you recorded.

You can also contact Save Elm Thicket at saveetnp@gmail.com and we will contact the city like we did for the 6714 Tyree Street property.

To see the complete list of properties that had permits filed after the new zoning standards went into effect (October 12, 2020), you can go to www.save-etnp.com and look under the "Helpful Resources" tab for the master list of building permits (click here to view and download). This master list will be updated monthly.





On the left is the original artist rendering on the site construction sign at 6714 Tyree Street. On the right is the home now being built showing the hip/gable roof type. Note that the artist rendering has not been updated and the City of Dallas notice poster is now missing.

Mark Your Calendars: March is Going to be Busy

On **Saturday, March 9 at 10 a.m.** the Elm Thicket/Northpark monthly crime watch meeting will be held in conjunction with the Elm Thicket/Northpark Neighborhood Association quarterly meeting. The meeting will be held at the K. B. Polk Recreation Center, 6801 Roper Street. Please attend so you can be in the loop as to the activities that are being planned.



Spring Break Camp at the K. B. Polk Recreation Center, 6801 Roper Street, will be held **March 11 - March 15 from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.** The cost is \$65 per child. The rec center staff has a lot of fun activities planned that week for Elm Thicket/Northpark children. Please call the rec center at 214-670-6308 for more information.

If you are interested in getting started in learning yoga, then make plans to attend Chair Yoga at the K. B. Polk Recreation Center, 6801 Roper Street, on Tuesdays starting March 12 at 10:30 a.m. Chair Yoga will be held every Tuesday through the month of April. Make sure you keep your calendar cleared on Tuesdays. Namaste!

The annual Easter Egg Hunt in Elm Thicket will be held on **March 23 at noon** at the K. B. Polk Sprayground, 6501 Thedford. This is always a fun time for the entire family and rumor has it that the Easter Bunny may make an appearance.









Fairy Tale Closet Offering Free Prom Attire for Teens

If it's spring then that means prom season is right around the corner. Elm Thicket/Northpark teens who would like to attend their prom and are in need of formal wear are invited to check out the Fairy Tale Closet during the month of March. The Fairy Tale Closet is held at the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, 1515 Young Street.

From formal gowns to tuxedos and suits to dress shoes, teens are welcome to come and find that perfect outfit at no cost. LGBTQ+ teens are also welcome to take advantage of the Fairy Tale Closet.

The dates for the Fairy Tale Closet 2024 are:

- March 9 & 16 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- March 13 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
- March 14 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.



To <u>register</u> for a date and time to visit the Fairy Tale Closet click <u>here</u>.

¿Conoces a un Adolescente Que Va al Baile de Graduación (Baile de Fin de Curso)?

Los estudiantes de secundaria que busquen ropa formal gratuita pueden venir a el Fairy Tale Closet cada mes de marzo en la Biblioteca Central J. Erik Jonsson, 1515 Young St. El armario incluye cientos de vestidos de varios tamaños y estilos, así como trajes y sacos, ¡incluidos zapatos y accesorios!

Haga clic aquí para hacer una cita: https://bit.ly/PromAtDPL

Para más información visite aquí: https://dallaslibrary2.org/teen/fairytalecloset.php

FYI: Recent Home Sales in Elm Thicket/Northpark

Because knowledge is power, the ETNP News will periodically post homes that have recently sold in ETNP. We will try to pick homes from each corner of ETNP as well as do a mix of cottages and new builds.



\$270,0002 **bd** • 1 **ba** • 769 **sqft**6810 Mabel Avenue, Dallas, TX 75209



\$340,000 2 bd • 1 ba • 796 sqft 6513 Lockheed Avenue, Dallas, TX 75209



\$1,249,000 4 bd • 4 ba • 3,425 sqft 7519 Taos Road, Dallas, TX 75209



\$1,981,000 4 bd • 5 ba • 4,388 sqft 7623 Caillet St, Dallas, TX 75209

K. B. Polk Seniors Enjoy Valentine's Day and Line Dancing

The K. B. Polk Senior Group had a busy February. Along with taking two trips in the new rec center van, they also did line dancing every Wednesday and celebrated Valentine's Day with a really tasty feast. Line dancing continues this month on Wednesday's at 10 a.m. until chair yoga begins. If you know of any seniors who are looking to join a senior group please let them know about the senior group at K. B. Polk. They are a fun bunch of folks. For more information please call the rec center at 214-670-6308.





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ETNP is filled with the most entrepreneurial group of people you will ever meet. Many of our neighbors have thriving home-based businesses. By advertising in the ETNP News, you can reach neighbors that may need your products and services.

ETNP News content is targeted to the ETNP neighborhood with information that will interest those who live here. This gives advertisers a better opportunity to have their advertising seen.

With circulation at approximately 500 households and growing, you can reach ETNP readers starting at only \$20 for 1/6th of a page. An ad filling this space would be only \$35, a half-page ad would be only \$50, and a full-page ad is only \$95.

Contact etnpnews@gmail.com or call Gus Perez at 214-930-7712 for more information.