



14TH ANNUAL ETNP JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION TO FEATURE UNVEILING OF TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER

The annual Elm Thicket/Northpark Juneteenth Celebration kicks off with the long-awaited dedication of the Texas Historical Marker commemorating the legacy of those who founded Elm Thicket as a freedman’s community. The unveiling of the Elm Thicket/Northpark historical marker will take place on Saturday, June 15 at 9 a.m. at 6803 Lockheed.

After the dedication ceremony, the parade will commence at 10 a.m. and travel throughout the neighborhood.

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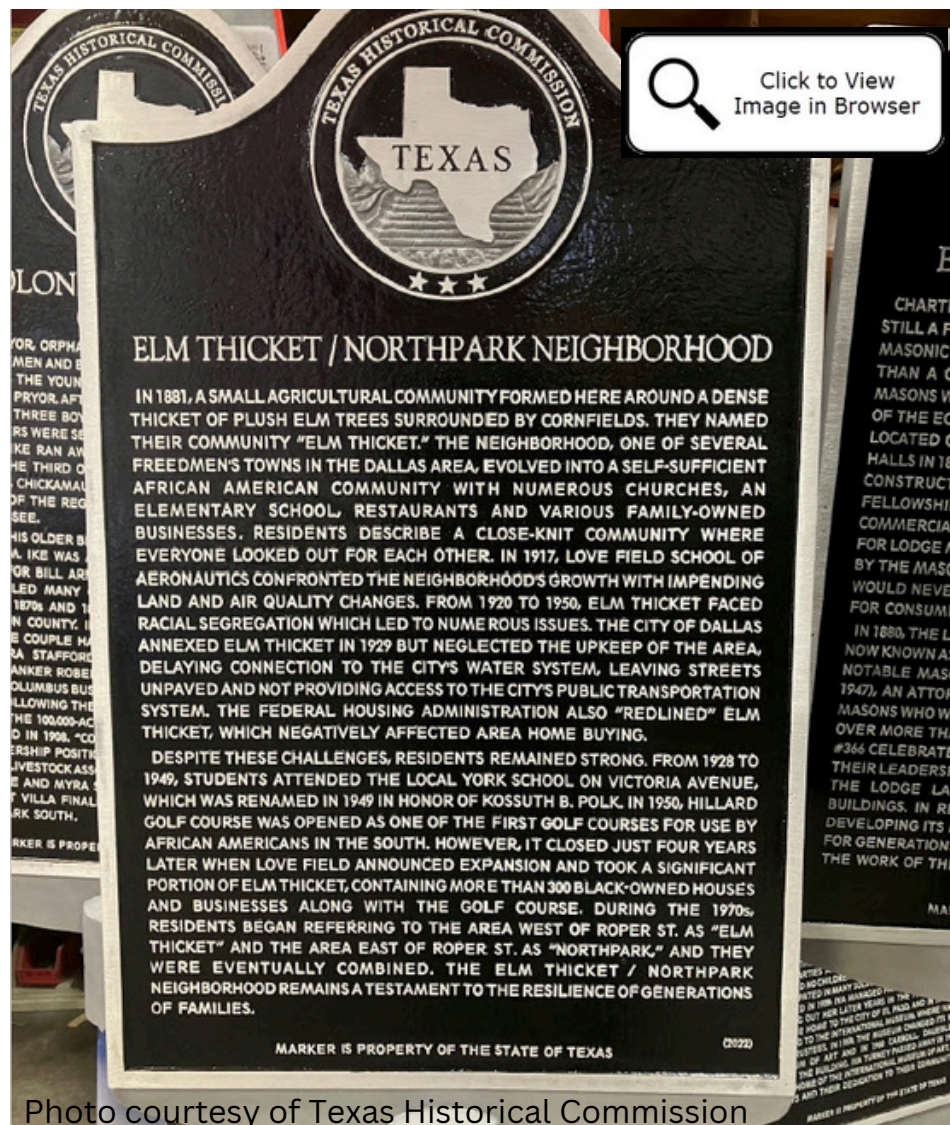


Photo courtesy of Texas Historical Commission

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ETNP News: Message from the Publisher

Hello ETNP Neighbors:

We hope this finds all Elm Thicket/Northpark neighbors safe from the recent round of storms. If you have any limbs or brush that fell please get them to the curb. Our scheduled heavy trash pick up week is June 3 but the city has sent out a message that they may be delayed in picking up because of storm damage throughout Dallas.

June is quickly becoming a month of celebration. June 1 kicks off Pride month. While there are events throughout the city to celebrate Pride month, June 8 is the Ride for Pride at Reverchon Park. There will be free food, raffle prizes, a kids rodeo, bike decorations and more. The event begins at 9 a.m. at the Reverchon Rec Center, 3505 Maple Avenue. Click [here](#) to register for this fun event.

If you have not already marked June 15 on your calendar then do so now because that is when the big Elm Thicket/Northpark neighborhood Juneteenth Celebration will take place. This is the 14th year for the Elm Thicket Juneteenth celebration and it is going to be one for the books.

The celebration starts at 9 a.m. at 6803 Lockheed Avenue for the dedication of the historical marker celebrating Elm Thicket/Northpark, one of several Freedman's communities still in existence in Dallas. To quote one of our legacy residents, this historical marker is long, long, long overdue.



The annual parade will start after the dedication and then the festivities, entertainment, free food and so on will continue at the K. B. Polk Recreation Center. There will also be a health fair as well as representatives from different city departments. The best part of this Juneteenth celebration is that it is for everyone who lives in Elm Thicket/Northpark or grew up in Elm Thicket/Northpark. Whether you lived here your entire life, one year or one day you are welcome to join in what is always a really fun day. It is a wonderful opportunity to catch up with friends and neighbors or make new friends.

Elm Thicket/Northpark is a tight knit neighborhood but its residents always have the welcome mat out to meet new neighbors that have chosen ETNP as their home.

Lastly, this June issue marks the one-year anniversary of the publication of the ETNP News. It has been a lot of fun putting together each issue and writing about our beloved neighborhood. We hope you have found it informative and that it has helped keep you in the loop about programs, events and news that affects our neighborhood.

Please keep the comments and suggestions coming. You can reach us at etnpnews@gmail.com. We love hearing from our neighbors.

Mimi Perez



City Errs in Allowing Builders to Violate ETNP Zoning Standards

In March and April 2024, neighbors contacted Save Elm Thicket and reported several new homes under construction that appeared to be in violation of the current zoning restrictions. Save Elm Thicket reported these building sites to the City of Dallas Development Services Department (DSD). After additional review, the DSD zoning supervisor confirmed that the structures were in violation of the new building guidelines the city approved in October 2022. The building permits were issued by the city in error.

The structures reported that are in error include:

- 7614 Linwood Ave
- 7614 Roper St
- 6801 Tyree St

For the homes being built on Linwood and Roper, those homes do not conform to the 90% minimum hip and gable roof type. The home on Tyree is being built as a duplex that is not an allowable use for that lot.

These building permits should not have been issued because of the zoning in place that was passed by city council in October 2022 (under Planned Development District 67 zoning). The permit staff apparently was not aware of PD 67 when they approved the building permits.

Because these homes are near completion or at completion, the city is considering using the Board of Adjustment “Nonconforming Uses and Structures” process to avoid the current zoning restrictions.

Save Elm Thicket is now asking the DSD that all homes that have not yet been built or in the early stages of construction have their permits reviewed. If additional permits have been issued in error, those should be revoked and work halted until the builder complies with the zoning. Save Elm Thicket is also asking for the building permit process to be halted until city staff is properly trained.

As a neighborhood that fought for several years to have our zoning standards put in place. Save Elm Thicket is asking all our neighbors to contact our city council representatives and ask them to make sure our neighborhood is protected from further building violations:

- D2 Council Member Jesse Moreno:
jesse.moreno@dallas.gov, 214-670-4171
- D6 City Council Member Omar Narvaez:
Omar.Narvaez@dallas.gov, 214-670-4199

If we stay united, we can make our voices heard to Save Elm Thicket.



Juneteenth Celebrated by Descendants of Escaped Slaves in Mexico

Juneteenth has a special meaning for slave descendants who fled to Mexico in the mid-1800s.

In the 1820s, escaped slaves and freedmen from North Carolina and Georgia were taken in by the Seminole Indians of Florida and were assimilated into their community. Unfortunately, from 1831 to 1850, the Seminoles and other tribes were forced from their land to Oklahoma during the infamous “Trail of Tears.”

These “Black Seminoles,” (Spanish: “Negros Mascogos”) as they were called, were under the constant threat of being captured and forced into slavery by slave traders. In 1850, to avoid capture and slavery, the Mascogos made the trek from Oklahoma to Mexico which had abolished slavery in 1829.

Upon arriving in Mexico, they were promised they would receive citizenship, money, livestock, tools, and 70,000 acres of land in return for defending the country’s northern border and taking Mexican names.

The Mascogos agreed and the village of Nacimiento de los Negros (Spanish: “Birth of the Blacks”) was formed on July 12, 1850, about 115 miles from the Texas border in the Mexican state of Coahuila. There they lived in relative peace and freedom while defending the land they called home.

After the end of slavery was announced on June 19, 1865, it took a few more years for the word to spread to the village of Nacimiento de los Negros. Those living there immediately began celebrating “El Día de Los Negros” (Spanish: “The Day of the Blacks”). They felt the kinship to those who were freed from the bonds of slavery in Texas. Black people on both sides of the US border were now completely free.

Although only a few hundred Mascogos live in Nacimiento de los Negros today, they continue to celebrate Juneteenth in much the same way they have for more than 150 years – with a parade of horseback riders, songs, family, friends, and food.



Pictured: Mascogos celebrating Juneteenth in the village of Nacimiento de los Negros with a horseback parade. Photo from NBCNews.com.

So as we celebrate Juneteenth, let’s stop and think of those brothers and sisters around the world who are sharing the joy of this special day with us because freedom has no borders.

Sources/Fuentes:

- KPRC News, “[Discovering Juneteenth in Mexico and how it’s celebrated in the small village Nacimiento de los Negros](#)” (June 20, 2023)
- NBC News, “[A family celebrates Juneteenth in Mexico – where their Black ancestors first found freedom](#)” (June 19, 2021)
- Texas Monthly, “[Why this Mexican Village Celebrates Juneteenth](#)” (June 19, 2019)
- TravelNoire.com, “[Nacimientos de los Negros: The Afro-Mexican Town that Celebrates Juneteenth](#)” (June 22, 2021)

Descendientes de Esclavos Fugitivos en México Celebran el 19 de Junio

Juneteenth tiene un significado especial para los descendientes de esclavos que huyeron a México a mediados del siglo XIX.

En la década de 1820, los esclavos fugitivos y libertos de Carolina del Norte y Georgia fueron acogidos por los indios Seminole de Florida y asimilados a su comunidad.

Desafortunadamente, de 1831 a 1850, los Seminoles y otras tribus fueron obligados a abandonar sus tierras y trasladarse a Oklahoma durante el infame "Camino de las Lágrimas."

Estos "Negros Mascogos", como se les llamaba, estaban bajo la constante amenaza de ser capturados y obligados a ser esclavos por traficantes de esclavos. En 1850, para evitar la captura y la esclavitud, los Mascogos hicieron el viaje desde Oklahoma a México, que había abolido la esclavitud en 1829.

Al llegar a México, se les prometió que recibirían ciudadanía, dinero, ganado, herramientas y 70.000 acres de tierra a cambio de defender la frontera norte del país y adoptar nombres mexicanos.

Los Mascogos estuvieron de acuerdo y el pueblo de Nacimiento de los Negros se formó el 12 de julio de 1850, a unas 115 millas de la frontera de Texas en el estado mexicano de Coahuila. Allí vivieron en relativa paz y libertad mientras defendían la tierra que llamaban hogar.

Después de que se anunció el fin de la esclavitud el 19 de junio de 1865, pasaron algunos años más hasta que se corrió la voz hasta el pueblo de Nacimiento de los Negros. Los que vivían allí inmediatamente comenzaron a celebrar "El Día de Los Negros." Sintieron el parentesco con aquellos que fueron liberados de las ataduras de la esclavitud en Texas. Los negros de ambos lados de la frontera estadounidense eran ahora completamente libres.



En la foto: Mascogos celebrando el 19 de junio en el pueblo de Nacimiento de los Negros con un baile. Foto de TravelNoire.com (crédito a Pedro Pardo).

Aunque hoy en día sólo unos pocos cientos de Mascogos viven en Nacimiento de los Negros, continúan celebrando el 16 de junio de la misma manera que lo han hecho durante más de 150 años: con un desfile de jinetes, canciones, familiares, amigos y comida.

Al celebrar el 19 de junio, debemos pensar en esos hermanos y hermanas de todo el mundo que comparten con nosotros la alegría de este día especial porque la libertad no tiene fronteras.

Fuentes de la Historia en la Página 4...

K. B. Polk Seniors Page

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<https://theseniorsource.org/>



¡SÉ VOLUNTARIO COMO ACOMPAÑANTE PARA PERSONAS MAYORES!

Hombres y mujeres de 55 años o más pueden ser la razón por la cual un niño en la escuela sonríe o un adulto mayor puede permanecer independiente en su hogar.

Un estipendio por hora está disponible para personas mayores que cumplan con los requisitos de ingresos. Se requiere una solicitud y una verificación de antecedentes.

Beneficios del voluntariado:

- Mejorar la calidad de vida
- Hacer nuevos amigos
- Ayudar a otros

Obtén información sobre nuestras oportunidades de voluntariado en TheSeniorSource.org/ACS o llama al 214.525.6118

Print & Play Puzzle Corner: Juneteenth Word Search

E O L C R G A L V E S T O N N
 G M I I O C O M E V R A G P A
 P E A N B M S Q J E I L J O T
 J R N N D E M C U D G I U F I
 J U O E C E R U T Y H B S A O
 J T N C R I P A N T T E T I N
 U E R E L A P E T I S R I R A
 B X D A T A L A N I T T C N L
 I A K K J E M G T D O Y E E H
 L S S Y G B E A R I E N Z S O
 E F A M I L Y N T A O N J S L
 E B V Z C J O C T I N N C G I
 D U U M Z C P B X H O G D E D
 A D A B O L I T I O N N E A A
 Y F R E E D O M D A Y I S R Y

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|-----------------|-----------------|
| Abolition | JubileeDay |
| Community | Juneteenth |
| EmancipationDay | Justice |
| Fairness | Liberation |
| Family | Liberty |
| FreedomDay | NationalHoliday |
| Galveston | Proclamation |
| GeneralGranger | Rights |
| Independence | Texas |

Answer Key can be found at www.save-etnp.org/etnp-news.

K. B. Polk Seniors Busy During the Month of May

The K. B. Polk Seniors group continues to grow in size and is busy with lots of different activities. At the beginning of May the group attended the “Elegance in Bloom” Mother’s Day Luncheon held downtown at the Hyatt Regency. Then two weeks later, the group rode the DART train to the Older Americans Month Celebration held at Centennial Hall at Fair Park. The group got to show off their new t-shirts at the event.

If you or a senior you know would be interested in learning more about the K. B. Polk Seniors or all of their activities please contact LaTori Johnson at the K. B. Polk Recreation Center, 6801 Roper Street, at 214-670-6308. Ms. Johnson is the coordinator for the seniors group and will be happy to answer any questions. Or, you can stop by anytime Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and meet the group. There is always a fun activity happening.



Top: Attending the “Elegance in Bloom” Mother’s Day Luncheon. Bottom: Enjoying the Older Americans Month Celebration. Pictures courtesy of K. B. Polk Staff

Musicians Needed to Perform for Seniors on June 14

The K. B. Polk Seniors Group is getting a jump start in celebrating Juneteenth. Tori Johnson, senior resource assistant, said she is doing her best to make this Juneteenth Celebration a special one for Elm Thicket/Northpark legacy residents.

“I really want to celebrate our seniors and make this a special weekend for them,” Mrs. Johnson said. She is in the process of organizing different entertainment for the senior group for Friday, June 14.

“We have planned a poetry reading and for dancers to entertain the seniors during their regular meeting time,” Mrs. Johnson said. “What I would also like for that Friday is some musical entertainment.”

Unfortunately, Mrs. Johnson has not been able to find an individual or group who can come in and play music for Elm Thicket/Northpark seniors.

“I know we have a lot of talented musicians in Ellum Thicket,” Mrs. Johnson said. “I hope I can find some who are willing to come in and play for our seniors. Honoring our seniors is a great way to show our love and thanks to the people who created the neighborhood we love so much.”

If you would like to perform for the Polk Senior group please contact Mrs. Johnson at the K. B. Polk Recreation Center at 214-670-6308.

Juneteenth Celebration Marker Unveiling (From Page 1)

The Juneteenth event is scheduled to run from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the K. B. Polk Rec Center (6801 Roper St.) and will feature free food, entertainment, games, and activities for the entire family. Activities will include dominoes and card games for everyone and a bounce house for the younger kids to enjoy. The free BBQ lunch will be served up on the grills in the park.

As an additional treat, two Southwest Airlines tickets to anywhere in the continental US and a stay at the Love Field Doubletree Hotel will be raffled off.

There will also be booths from city departments offering information on how they can benefit your family. The ETNP News will also have a booth, so please stop by and pick up a copy or two of this newsletter for your friends and family to see what is happening in our beloved neighborhood. We will also have previous copies of our newsletter so you can catch up on the latest information in our beloved neighborhood. See you there!



11 New Building Construction Permits Issued for April & May

Save Elm Thicket is continuing to monitor all new construction permits issued for our neighborhood and publishing the addresses. The 11 new building permits issued during the months of April and May include:

- 7202 Caillet St
- 7506 Caillet St
- 7619 Caillet St
- 6810 Mabel Ave
- 6541 Prosper St
- 6629 Prosper St
- 4915 W University Blvd
- 5009 Wateka Dr
- 5060 Wateka Dr
- 4902 Wenonah Dr
- 4903 Wenonah Dr

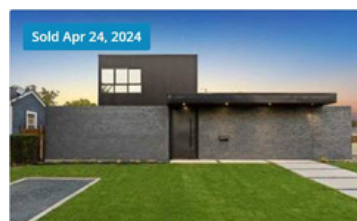
Until the matter of building permits issued in error is resolved, we are asking everyone to keep an eye out for potential zoning violations and contact Save Elm Thicket at saveetnp@gmail.com. For a complete list of addresses, construction rules, and how to report possible violations, go to the Save Elm Thicket website ([here](#)).

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.



\$535,000
2 bd • 1 ba • 1,415 sqft
5031 Linnet Lane, Dallas, TX 75209



\$1,495,000
3 bd • 4 ba • 2,857 sqft
6806 Prosper St, Dallas, TX 75209



\$559,000
3 bd • 1 ba • 980 sqft
7603 Kaywood Drive, Dallas, TX 75209



\$1,795,000
4 bd • 5 ba • 4,416 sqft
5027 Thrush St, Dallas, TX 75209