

ETNP News

A Save Elm Thicket Publication Serving ETNP



SAVE ELM THICKET WORKING WITH CITY TO ADDRESS ETNP BUILDING VIOLATIONS

As a follow-up to what was reported in the June 2024 issue of the ETNP News, the City of Dallas Development Services Department (DSD) admitted they made mistakes when they issued new building permits that did not require builders to follow the zoning restrictions that the Elm Thicket neighborhood fought for and got approved in October of 2022 via PD 67 (Planned Development District Article 67).

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¡Aire Acondicionado de Ventana de Emergencia Disponibles!

Free Teen Passes to Dallas Places for the Summer!

¡Pases Gratuitos para Adolescentes a Lugares de Dallas Durante el Verano!



This building site at 4522 Kelton Drive was recently reported to the city for a roof-type construction violation by Save Elm Thicket. As seen in the picture, the roof has more than 10% shed-style roof which is more than allowed in the current zoning.

But thanks to neighbors who contacted Save Elm Thicket (SET), the DSD told SET that it is committed to correcting current and future building permits so all new homes built in Elm Thicket/Northpark conform to our neighborhood zoning that restricts lot coverage, height, and roof type.

To ensure that building permits issued going forward meet the new zoning restrictions, the DSD updated all review tools and ordinances have been updated for PD 67 to prevent any further violations.

Building Violations Continued on Page 3...

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ETNP News: Message from the Publisher

Hello ETNP Neighbors:

I hope this finds everyone doing well in this heat. These temperatures are nothing to be trifled with so please be careful when going outside. If you are in need of air conditioning the City of Dallas has opened their cooling stations located at [The Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center](#) and [West Dallas Multipurpose Center](#). There is also a program where you can get a free window unit. You will find that information on Page 8 of this newsletter.

I hope you were able to attend the unveiling of the Elm Thicket/Northpark Texas Historical Marker at the start of the Juneteenth celebration. It was wonderful to see so many of our legacy residents attend this incredible event.

After the dedication I found my way to my friend Diane Johnson. As we sat next to each other it became apparent that we were both thinking the same thing. “Momma would have loved this so much.”

Diane’s mother, “Big Mama” Eva Johnson, was Elm Thicket’s oldest living resident at 108 until she passed away last July. She lived one block away from where the historical marker sits and would have been able to see it from her back door.

My wish, I told Diane, was that all the seniors I’ve known in the 29 years we’ve lived here could have seen this day or at least known it was coming. Like Big Mama, it would have made them so happy and so proud to see the neighborhood they helped build be recognized and preserved for the next generation.

It was at that point that little two-year-old Bella Ferguson, whose family goes back six generations, sat with the children in the statue and started looking at their book. That is what this marker is all about. It’s about letting the generation coming up know about the neighborhood they live in, the people who made this what it is today and how it is incumbent upon all of the residents who love Elm Thicket/Northpark to keep the history alive.

My daughter is 25 years old and is preparing to move out of state to start her career. Before she leaves, I plan on taking her picture at that historical marker because like little Bella, she too, is a legacy of this neighborhood. Our daughter was born and raised in this neighborhood and regardless of where she goes in this world her first home will always be Elm Thicket/Northpark.

If you have not had a chance to see the historical marker, please make your way to 6803 Lockheed. And if you missed the unveiling don’t worry, you will get another opportunity when the Hilliard Golf Course historical marker is unveiled next year.

Here is wishing everyone a safe and peaceful July 4th holiday.



City Working to Resolve ETNP Building Errors (from Page 1)

In an email communication with Save Elm Thicket staff, Jason Pool, Development Services Administrator, said, “We are committed to addressing any and all specific concerns you may have. We look forward to partnering with the neighborhood to address these concerns.”

The DSD is also working with Save Elm Thicket to look at recently-approved building permits to ensure they are in compliance with the zoning regulations for Elm Thicket/Northpark. SET provided the DSD with 24 property addresses where construction has not yet started or the construction is in the early stages. They will verify those permits are in compliance and take action if they are not. Verification is still ongoing as of this publication date.

It appears that several properties where building permits were issued in error and are at completion or near completion will most likely go to the Board of Adjustment (BOA) to be certified. Save Elm Thicket is stressing to the city that the BOA process is not a solution to address future building violations by builders.

“In the long run, we will be exploring additional measures to minimize the gap between ordinance enactment and its application in permit reviews, and to ensure builders adhere to zoning requirements, with clear consequences for non-compliance, including fines or mandated corrective actions,” Mr. Pool said.

Additional plans are being made to have the DSD come to ETNP neighborhood and provide a “lunch and learn” presentation with residents and developers to share what the DSD is doing to ensure builders are in compliance. Once the details of that meeting are confirmed, Save Elm Thicket will communicate this to the neighborhood.

In the meantime, neighbors are asked to continue to send addresses and/or pictures of properties they believe are not in compliance with ETNP zoning standards (i.e., lot coverage, height, and roof type) to saveetnp@gmail.com. For information on these standards and address for building permits issues since October 2022, go to <https://save-etnp.com/helpful-resources>.



Be on the lookout for properties that may have more than 10% non-hip/gable roof construction by looking at what is being built and from construction signage and report to saveetnp@gmail.com. (Photos courtesy of Save Elm Thicket Staff.)

Elm Thicket/Northpark Neighbors Come Out to Celebrate Juneteenth and Historical Marker Unveiling

The 2024 Elm Thicket/Northpark Juneteenth Celebration on Saturday, June 15, was one for the history books because everyone in attendance was able to enjoy the unveiling of the Texas State Historical Marker celebrating the history of our beloved neighborhood. A Texas State Historical Marker recognizing the Hilliard Golf Course (1950-53), the first golf course for African-Americans in the South, is planned to be unveiled in 2025.

The neighborhood-wide Juneteenth Celebration kicked off at 6803 Lockheed with the unveiling of the Elm Thicket/Northpark Texas State Historical Marker.

“This marker is one piece of our history. There’s the Hilliard Golf Course marker that will be coming next year,” said Jonathan Maples, president of the Elm Thicket/Northpark Neighborhood Association. “What’s important to me is I want the world to know we were here.”

After the dedication there was the annual parade followed by a barbecue lunch and representatives from many city departments and elected officials on hand to answer questions and provide information.

The Dallas Dollz Dance Company, which is coached by Camille Batiste, Casey Martin and Alexis Batiste, participated in the parade as well as performed in the gym.



Above Pictured Left to Right: D11 Dallas City Councilmember Jaynie Schultz, D2 Dallas City Councilmember Jesse Moreno, D2 Dallas ISD Trustee Sarah Weinberg, D8 Dallas City Councilmember and Mayor Pro Tem Tennell Atkins, and D13 Dallas City Councilmember Gay Donnell Willis. The sculpture below the historical marker is the work of American sculptor Max Turner.

More ETNP Juneteenth Event Pictures... (From Page 4)

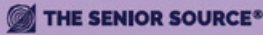


K. B. Polk Seniors Page

Sponsored by The Senior Source®



3910 Harry Hines Blvd, Dallas, Texas 75219
 214-823-5700, info@theseniorsource.org
<https://theseniorsource.org/>



VOLUNTEER AS A SENIOR COMPANION!

Men and women 55+ can be the reason a child in school smiles or an older adult can stay independent in their home.

An hourly stipend is available for seniors who meet income requirements. An application and background check are required.

Benefits of Volunteering:

- Improve quality of life
- Make new friends
- Help others

Learn about our volunteer opportunities at TheSeniorSource.org/ACS or call 214.525.6125

Print & Play Puzzle Corner: July 4th Word Search

R H Y G I C E C R E A M U A Z
 P E M D H O T D O G S Q E B K
 I N D E P E N D E N C E D A Y
 W S S W X S H T C G E S Y R S
 S A U T H S W O F J E U F B P
 U F M N A I P I L L U N A E R
 N I P E G R T A M I G N M C A
 S R A I R L S E R M D Y I U Y
 C E R C J I A P A K I A L E P
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|-----------------|-----------------|
| American | Parades |
| Barbecues | RedWhiteandBlue |
| Family | Sparklers |
| Firecrackers | SprayPark |
| Fireworks | StarSpangled |
| Holiday | Sunglasses |
| HotDogs | Sunny |
| IceCream | Sunscreen |
| IcedTea | Swimming |
| IndependenceDay | Vacation |

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

K. B. Polk Seniors Invite Grauwlyer Park and Arlington Park Seniors to Celebrate Juneteenth with Music and Dance

Juneteenth festivities kicked off on Friday, June 14 with the K. B. Polk seniors group. Senior Resource Assistant Tori Simmons Johnson organized a Juneteenth celebration just for the seniors and invited seniors from Grauwlyer Park and Arlington Park to join in the fun.

“I wanted our seniors to have a great Juneteenth celebration,” Mrs. Johnson said. “I just wanted to do something really special for them.”

Along with a delicious lunch, Mrs. Johnson brought in musical entertainment as well as Brooklyn Collier to perform an inspired praise dance. There were also raffle giveaways and games. Miss Collier is a member of the Dallas Dollz Dance Company.



©Mimi Perez



©Mimi Perez




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Top left: K. B. Polk Seniors and invited guests from Grauwlyer Park and Arlington Park gather to enjoy the festivities. Top right: Brooklyn Collier performs for the seniors an inspired praise dance. Bottom: Seniors enjoy the musical performance and listen for their names as raffle giveaways are awarded.

Emergency A/C Window Units Available from DCHHS

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THIS SUMMER!**

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SU HOGAR**

**LLÁMENOS
214-819-1976**

**¡SOLICITE AYUDA
HOY!**

***PARA PERSONAS DE
ESCASOS RECURSOS**

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Distribution Begins July 1 at Rec Centers for Exclusive, Free All-Access Passes for Teens to Explore Dallas's Cool Places

TEENS! GET YOUR EXCLUSIVE PASS FOR CITY OF DALLAS RESIDENTS AGES 13 - 17! EXPLORE DALLAS THIS SUMMER!



Omar Narvaez
Council Member
District 6



Get your exclusive Teen All-Access Pass for free admission to popular Dallas recreational and cultural attractions.

At 10am July 1, Dallas Park and Recreation will distribute passes (while supplies last) at City of Dallas recreation centers. To get your free pass, you must register in person 13-17 and show proof of Dallas residency.

Pass Pick-up Schedule
Starting July 2, visit City of Dallas recreation centers during normal business hours to pick up your pass!
Mon - Thurs 9am - 8pm
Friday 9am - 7pm
Saturday 9am - 2pm



Scan the QR Code to find more details and a complete list of participating venues.

While Supplies Last!

¡ADOLESCENTES! OBTENGAN SU PASE EXCLUSIVO ¡PARA RESIDENTES DE LA CIUDAD DE DALLAS DE 13 A 17 AÑOS! ¡EXPLORA DALLAS ESTE VERANO!



Omar Narvaez
Concejal
Distrito 6



Obtén tu pase exclusivo Teen All-Access Pass para entrada gratis a las atracciones recreativas y culturales de Dallas.

A las 10 de la mañana del 1 de julio, el Departamento de Parques y Recreación de Dallas distribuirá pases (hasta que se acaben) en centros de recreación de la Ciudad de Dallas. Para obtener su pase gratis, debe registrarse en persona 13-17 y mostrar prueba de residencia en Dallas.

Horario para recoger los pases
A partir del 2 de julio, visita los centros de recreación de la Ciudad de Dallas ¡durante las horas normales para recoger su pase!
Lunes - Jueves 9am - 8pm
Viernes 9am - 7pm
Sábado 9am - 2pm



Escanea el código QR para más detalles y una lista completa de los lugares participantes.

¡Mientras duren las reservas!