OCTOBER 2026

ETNP News

A Save Elm Thicket Publication Serving ETNP

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VOTE **November 3 Midterm Election Special Edition. See Election Information on Pages 3-5.** VOTE

K. B. POLK REC CENTER AND K. B. POLK PTA HOLDING OCT 23 HALLOWEEN EVENT

The K.B. Polk Recreation Center and K.B. Polk PTA are excited to invite you to the Ghosts & Goodies on Roper Street Halloween Event on Thursday, October 23rd, from 5-8 PM!

The event features several fun activities for children and families, including a Pumpkin Decorating Contest, Haunted House, Cake Walk, Costume Contest, food, and more!

We encourage everyone to come dressed in their best Halloween costume and join us for a fun and spooky evening!

If you are interested in being a vendor at the event, bring a small game or activity for the children and families to do at your table. Tables and chairs will be provided and vendors are also encouraged to bring goodies and giveaways such as treats for the kids.

Interested vendors can RSVP to Leticia Garcia (leticia.garcia1@dallas.gov) at the Rec Center to reserve a spot.

Haz clic en esta imagen para ver la versión en español.





Inside This Issue

Message from the *ETNP News* Publisher – VOTE DEM!

Ellum Thicket Neighbors Can Sign Up for Free Early-Voting Ride to the Polls

Organizan campaña de transporte gratuito a los centros de votación anticipada en Ellum Thicket

How to Replace Your Mail Ballot for a Standard Ballot

Cómo Reemplazar su Boleta por Correo con una Boleta Estándar

Seniors Have Busy September with Birthdays, Crafts, and Volunteer Time

Zoning Allows Duplexes on Empty Lots

Report Illegal Signs to 311

National Night Out Coming Oct. 6 to Rec Center

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ETNP News: Message from the Publisher

Hello ETNP Neighbors:

The upcoming general election is incredibly important because we are electing local and national representatives. To say otherwise would be a lie or an understatement. In this issue you will find all of the voter information you need in order to cast your vote.

If you have not checked your voter registration status, please do so now. The current Texas Republican governor was one of the first to give our private voter information to the Trump administration. As of September 2026, an estimated 1.2 million Texas voters have had their voter status put into "suspense." This means your address is potentially incorrect. You have time to correct the error. The deadline to do so is Monday, Oct. 5. You can check your voter status here: https://www.dallascountyvotes.org/voters/registration/lookup/#VoterEligibilitySearch
There are instructions there on how to correct your address and be taken off the "suspense" list.

Early voting begins Monday, Oct. 19 and ends on Friday, Oct. 30, at 7 pm. Please make your plan now on how and where you plan to vote.

To ensure Ellum Thicket voters get to the polls, a voter drive has been organized by Pastor Paula Bradley, of The House of Prayer on Thedford, and Save Elm Thicket, the neighborhood advocacy group dedicated to preserving the history of Ellum Thicket/Northpark and publisher of *ETNP News*.

If you would like to get a ride so you can vote early, please call Pastor Bradley at 214-395-8265 or Mimi Perez at 214-215-5939. Pastor Bradley and Mimi are organizing the schedule and drivers and will confirm what day you would like to vote. If you would like to volunteer to drive voters to the polls please reach out to Rev. Bradley or Mimi to get more information.

As for endorsements in the upcoming election, we are endorsing all Democratic candidates. We need national representation in the form of James Talarico in the senate in hopes of slowing down or stopping the most corrupt administration in our history. On the state level, we are again endorsing Democratic candidates from governor on down. The Republican Party has maintained power in Texas for 30 years and all the problems and issues in our state are on them. More importantly, we have a governor and lieutenant governor, etc. who support ICE enforcement against our friends and neighbors, regardless of immigration or citizenship status, who happen to be persons of color.

Our vote is under attack like never before. Now more than ever, Ellum Thicket voters need to show up and say in one voice, we will not be disenfranchised. We are voting not only for ourselves but for our children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Our vote can make a difference but we have to exercise that right and we have volunteers who are willing to help make that happen. Enough is enough.

Provided on pages 3 through 5 of this issue is information for all our neighbors on getting to the polls and voting on Election Day. We hope to be able to say in our December issue that we made a difference in this election to shape our future – not only for our ETNP community but for our country.

Your neighbor,
Gus Perez

Voter Drive Organized to Help Ellum Thicket Neighbors Get to the Polls So They Can Vote

The Rev. Paula Bradley, pastor of The House of Prayer on Thedford, and Save Elm Thicket, the neighborhood advocacy group and publisher of the *ETNP News* newsletter, have organized a voter drive to take Ellum Thicket neighbors to the polls so they can cast their ballot in the upcoming midterm election.

During the two weeks of early voting which begins Monday, Oct. 19, volunteers will pick up neighbors at their home, drive them to a polling place and drop them off at the door. When they are done voting, volunteers will drive them back home. For those voters who have trouble walking into the polling place, volunteers will arrange for them to vote via curbside as they sit in the car.

Dates	Day of the Week	Hours
October 19 - October 23	Monday - Friday	7 AM - 7 PM*
October 24	Saturday	7 AM - 7 PM*
October 25	Sunday	12 PM - 6 PM*
October 26 - October 30	Monday - Friday	7 AM - 7 PM*

"If you do not feel comfortable voting by mail, we will drive you to Grauwyler Park Rec. Center so you can early vote in person," Pastor Bradley said. "Ellum Thicket has a rich history of being very politically active and ensuring we vote. This year we want to make sure anyone who wants to vote can do so in person. This is too important of an election for people to stay home."

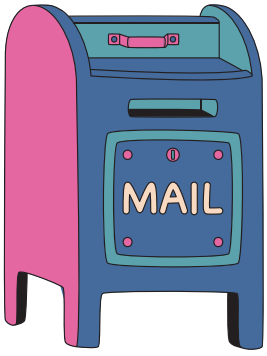
If you would like to take advantage of this free service or have any questions, please call Pastor Bradley 214-395-8265 or Mimi Perez at 214-215-5939. They will schedule the day and time for you to be picked up and driven to an early voting location.

"Many of our legacy residents fought for the right to vote," Ms. Perez said. "It is incumbent upon the next generation to ensure our seniors get to vote. We cannot allow anyone to sit at home and not exercise their right to vote just because they do not have the ability to get to a polling place or do not trust the mail service."

Early voting is from Monday, Oct. 19, from 7 am to 7 pm through Friday, Oct. 30, from 7 am to 7 pm. On Sunday, Oct. 25, the voting hours are noon to 6 pm.

Process for Replacing Mail Ballot for Standard Ballot Explained

Mail-in balloting is currently under attack by the current Republican administration and experts warn of potential delays and voter disenfranchisement. If you are no longer trusting the U.S.Postal System to get your ballot cast on time, there is a process to swap your mail ballot for a standard ballot.



Take your mail ballot to the vote center where you wish to vote in person. You can surrender your mail ballot for a standard ballot. Your mail ballot does not have to be accompanied by the carrier envelope it arrived in; just bring the actual ballot. The judge at the vote center will cancel your mail ballot in the Electronic Poll Book (EPB) and provide you with a request form to cancel your mail ballot. Once the form is completed, you can proceed to vote with a standard ballot.

For more information, go to https://www.dallascountyvotes.org/vote-by-mail/faqs/.

★ YOUR VOTE MATTERS ★

GET TO THE POLLS

FREE TRANSPORTATION ★ EARLY VOTING

FOR ELLUM THICKET / NORTHPARK RESIDENTS



RIDE • VOTE • RETURN

We'll pick you up, take you to the early-voting location at GRAUWYLER RECREATION CENTER, and bring you home — FREE.

WHAT

Free rides for registered Ellum Thicket residents. Especially for elderly and disabled residents.

WHEN

Monday, Oct. 19 – Friday, Oct. 30, 2026
Volunteers will provide transportation during early voting.

WHO

Organized by **Rev. Paula Bradley,** pastor of The House of Prayer on Thedford, and **Save Elm Thicket,** a neighborhood advocacy group.

HOW

Call Rev. Bradley at 214-395-8265 or Mimi Perez at 214-215-5939.
They'll coordinate your schedule and transportation.

WHY

Our vote protects our community's future. Let's show up, Ellum Thicket!
Your voice. Your family. Your community.

EARLY VOTING. IT MAKES A DIFFERENCE.

Haga clic aquí para ver la versión en español

Se Organiza una Campaña para Ayudar a los Vecinos a Llegar a los Centros de Votación y Ejercer su Derecho al Voto

La reverenda Paula Bradley, pastora de The House of Prayer on Thedford, y Save Elm Thicket —el grupo de defensa vecinal y editor del boletín ETNP News— han organizado una iniciativa para llevar a los vecinos de Elm Thicket a las urnas y que así puedan votar en las próximas elecciones de mitad de mandato.

Durante las dos semanas de votación anticipada, que comienzan el lunes 19 de octubre, los voluntarios recogerán a los vecinos en sus domicilios, los llevarán al centro de votación y los dejarán en la puerta. Una vez que hayan votado, los voluntarios los llevarán de regreso a casa. Para aquellos votantes que tengan dificultades para entrar al centro de votación, los voluntarios gestionarán la posibilidad de que voten desde el vehículo, sin necesidad de bajarse de este.

Fecha	Día de la Semana	Horario
19 de octubre - 23 de octubre	lunes- viernes	8 AM - 5 PM*
24 de octubre	sábado	7 AM - 7 PM*
25 de octubre	domingo	12 PM - 6 PM*
26 de octubre - 30 de octubre	lunes- viernes	7 AM - 7 PM*

“Si no se siente cómodo votando por correo, le llevaremos en automóvil al Centro Recreativo Grauwyler Park para que pueda votar en persona durante el periodo de votación anticipada”, dijo el pastor Bradley. “Ellum Thicket tiene una larga tradición de gran actividad política y de garantizar que ejerzamos nuestro derecho al voto. Este año queremos asegurarnos de que cualquier persona que desee votar pueda hacerlo en persona. Es una elección demasiado importante para quedarse en casa”.

Si desea aprovechar este servicio gratuito o tiene alguna pregunta, por favor llame al pastor Bradley al 214-395-8265 o a Mimi Pérez al 214-215-5939. Ellos programarán el día y la hora para pasar a recogerle y llevarle a un centro de votación anticipada.

“Muchos de nuestros residentes de larga trayectoria lucharon por el derecho al voto”, dijo la Sra. Pérez. “Corresponde a la siguiente generación garantizar que nuestros adultos mayores puedan votar. No podemos permitir que nadie se quede en casa sin ejercer su derecho al voto simplemente porque no tiene cómo llegar al centro de votación o porque no confía en el servicio de correo”.

La votación anticipada se llevará a cabo desde el lunes 19 de octubre (de 7 a. m. a 7 p. m.) hasta el viernes 30 de octubre (de 7 a. m. a 7 p. m.). El domingo 25 de octubre, el horario de votación será de mediodía a 6 p. m.

Cómo Reemplazar una Boleta por Correo con una Boleta Estándar

El voto por correo está siendo cuestionado actualmente por la administración republicana, y los expertos advierten sobre posibles retrasos y el riesgo de que se prive a los ciudadanos de su derecho al voto. Si ya no confía en que el Servicio Postal de los EE. UU. entregue su papeleta a tiempo, existe un procedimiento para cambiar su boleta de voto por correo por una boleta convencional.

Simplemente lleve su boleta de voto por correo al centro de votación donde desee votar en persona. Puede entregar su boleta de voto por correo a cambio de una boleta estándar. No es necesario que lleve el sobre de envío en el que recibió la boleta; basta con llevar la boleta misma. El funcionario electoral del centro de votación anulará su boleta de voto por correo en el registro electrónico de votantes (EPB) y le facilitará un formulario de solicitud para dicha anulación. Una vez completado el formulario, podrá proceder a votar con una boleta estándar.

Para más información, visite https://www.dallascountyvotes.org/vote-by-mail/faqs/.

K. B. Polk Seniors Page

Active Senior Adult Program Has Busy September





L**eft:** Members of the Active Senior Adult Program (A.S.A.P.) at the K.B. Polk Recreation Center made oven mitts during an arts and crafts activity. Roberta Mitchell shows off her oven mitt.

R**ight**: The ASAP group also celebrated the September birthdays. From left to right: Alice Edwards, Rozalind Price, Sheila Moody and Sherrill Hearne. None of them are a day over 21. If you would like to join in on the fun please call the rec center at 214-670-6308 and ask for Leticia Garcia.

Print & Play Puzzle Corner: Halloween Word Search

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

BATS
CANDY
COSTUMES
GHOSTS
GHOULS
GRAVEYARD
GOBLINS
HAUNTED
MONSTERS
PUMPKINS
SCARY
SKELETONS
SPIDERWEBS
SPOOKY
TREATS
TRICKS
VAMPIRES
WEREWOLVES
WITCHES
ZOMBIES

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

Seniors Creating “Blessing Bags” to Give to the Less Fortunate: More Donations Being Sought

Seniors are currently sorting toiletries that will go into the “Blessing Bags” that they will distribute to those in need. If you have travel size soap, deodorant, toothpaste, non-perishable snack items, etc., please consider donating them to the ASAP group so they can continue giving to those less fortunate.

To donate these needed items, call the rec center at 214-670-6308 and ask for Leticia Garcia.



2022 Zoning Update: Empty Lots Allowed for Duplex Use

Save Elm Thicket learned from the 2024 Dallas Board of Adjustment fight that the new zoning regulations passed in October 2022 left a provision that allowed developers to build duplexes on lots that were identified as vacant.

Many residents have been asking Save Elm Thicket specifically about new construction at 6544 Kenwell St. which was the original site for Rose’s Day Care. Before the new zoning was passed, the owner of the lot demolished the day care building and left the lot vacant. Along the way, the original lot was divided into two parcels which allows up to 4 duplex units to be built on the lots (now 6600 and 6606 Kenwell St.).

More than 50 vacant lots within the Elm Thicket/Northpark neighborhood were identified on the Land Use Map submitted with the new zoning ordinance that went into effect in October 2022. Save Elm Thicket has posted this Land Use Map on our website (click here). You can look at this map to see what vacant lots could be developed with duplexes. No matter what is built on vacant lots, the construction must still meet the height, roof type, and lot coverage restrictions.

As always, if you see any construction that does not appear to be following the law, you can contact Save Elm Thicket at saveetnp@gmail.com and the site will be investigated and reported to the city for verification.


Image from Roses Daycare Facebook Page



Left: The picture of Rose’s Daycare Center formerly at 6544 Kenwell Street from the Roses Daycare Facebook page. This is how the daycare site looked like in 2015 and had served generations of the Elm Thicket/Northpark community from the 1970s until it closed in 2018 after Ms. Rammie Rose retired.
Right: 4 duplex units are currently being developed on the site (picture taken in late June).

‘Tis the Season to Report Illegal Bandit Signs to 311

For many years, the Elm Thicket/Northpark neighborhood has been targeted by ugly “bandit signs” posted in public parkways and utility poles with messages like, “We Buy Junk Cars, Sell Us Your Ugly Home,” etc. With the passage of a Texas law that went into effect Sept. 1, 2025, the enforcement of penalties for these illegal signs just got easier. The advertisers, not just those who place the signs, can be fined between $1000 and $5000 per offense.

As *ETNP News* reported in December 2024 (click here), there is a way to report these signs to the City of Dallas to have them removed. Now, the owner can be fined if they do not comply with any removal notice issued.

To have these eyesores removed, call 311 and notify the city of a “Code Concern” that involves these types of signs posted in public right of ways and utility poles. The only exception is if these signs are placed on private property. When calling, be sure to provide a specific location/street intersection.

If you have the Dallas 311 app, you can also submit it under Code Concerns --> Nuisance --> Signs.



Signs placed like this one are now illegal under Texas law. Please report them to 311 when you see them.

With this Texas law that went int effect in 2025, it is easier to hold the advertisers accountable and have these ugly signs removed from our beloved neighborhood.

National Night Out Set for October 6 at Rec Center

You are invited to National Night Out to meet your neighbors, Dallas city council members and the neighborhood patrol officers assigned to Elm Thicket/Northpark on Tuesday, Oct. 6 at 6 pm at the K. B. Polk Recreation Center. It’s been proven over and over, that neighborhoods that are vigilant and neighbors that look out for each other are the first and best defense against potential crime.



National Night Out is meant to encourage neighborhoods to come together to learn what they can do to keep their homes safe from potential crime. If you have not met our neighborhood patrol officers this would be a great opportunity to do so.

There will also be representatives from other city departments at the event. So if you have any questions or issues that you would like to see addressed, please plan on attending.