# WINNETKA EIGHTS

## Letter from Winnetka Heights President, Anne Hagan

Happy Spring. It is great to see so many more neighbors out and about in the great weather. And I love turning on my street and seeing it covered in shade from the new leaves on our trees.

With Spring comes news and events. We have a great neighborhood fundraising coming up at Turner House on Saturday, April 20 – Bites in the Heights! For those who have not attended before, this is a really fun event where about 20 neighbors prepare a dish or cocktail and attendees get to sample (and judge!) the results. If you haven't already bought a ticket, please hurry – we've already sold over half of our maximum tickets available.

There's also a City of Dallas Bondthink it is important to<br/>acknowledge all that Celection coming up – Electionacknowledge all that CDay is May 4 and Earlydone for our neighborh<br/>put out thousands of HVoting starts on April 22. More<br/>information is included inside<br/>this newsletter, and there are<br/>several projects in and aroundsigns, greeted hundred<br/>neighbors, and brough<br/>tens of thousands of sp<br/>dollars for Winnetka Heights, so please<br/>consider voting.

And as you may have heard, the City of Dallas is continuing its "Forward Dallas" project. Forward Dallas has the goal of advancing more intentional future development in the city by creating a general plan for what are appropriate uses in different areas of the city. The plan does not change any existing zoning but instead creates goals for future development. The classification in the plan for Winnetka Heights reflects its current character single family with some multifamily and some commercial. You can learn more here.

Finally, I'd like to take a moment to say thank you to my neighbor, friend, and Membership Chair Chris Walters. Chris and his husband Bill Reyno will soon be moving to Oregon and I think it is important to acknowledge all that Chris has done for our neighborhood. He has put out thousands of Happy Hour signs, greeted hundreds of new neighbors, and brought in tens of thousands of sponsorship dollars for Winnetka Heights events.



Beyond those tangible contributions, however, Chris will be deeply missed as one of the kindest people I know. He embodies the social spirit of the neighborhood and has made countless neighbors feel more welcome with his smile, usually accompanied by a big hug. Bon voyage, Bill and Chris! We will miss you.

Anne Hagan, Winnetka Heights President

VISIT OUR <u>WEBSITE</u> FOR UPCOMING EVENT DETAILS!

# Get social with your WH Neighbors!



#### GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!

Our Spring fundraiser, Bites In The Heights, will be on Saturday, April 20 at Turner House, <u>401 North Rosemont Ave</u>. Cocktails start at 6:30 p.m. and bites begin at 7:30 p.m.

Get your ticket today to enjoy delicious tipples and bites made by talented mixologists, home cooks and professional chefs from Winnetka Heights and Oak Cliff. We'll also be serving up wine and beer.

This fundraiser raises money for neighborhood improvements like our sidewalk replacement program and neighborhood events.

## **Dallas Bond Program 2024**

Dallas City Council has approved a \$1.25 billion bond election that will be held on May 4, 2024, with Early Vote starting on April 22. The election consists of 10 propositions for funding of capital construction in different areas. The bond includes \$521 million for streets and transportation, \$345.2 million for parks and recreation, \$52.1 million for flood protection and storm drainage, \$43.5 million for libraries, \$75.2 million for cultural arts facilities, \$90 million for public safety, \$72.3 million for economic development, \$26.4 million for housing, \$19 million for homelessness, and \$5 million for information technology. Specifically around Winnetka Heights, proposed funding includes, among other projects:

- 1.\$16 million for new North Oak Cliff library facilities
- 2.\$15 million for Complete Street reconstruction of Davis from Clinton Ave. to Hampton Rd
- 3.\$3 million for a Complete Street Design for Jefferson Blvd., from Polk St. to Hampton Rd
- 4.7 blocks of alley reconstruction in Winnetka Heights
- 5.\$54,000 for improvements to Fire Station #14, which serves Winnetka Heights

To see a map of all proposed projects, please visit here

These projects could all have a significant impact on our neighborhood, so please consider voting on Election Day, May 4, or during Early Voting, April 22-30.

#### WHNA PRESENTS



Save the date of **Saturday, May 11, 2024** for this year's Family Fun Fest to be held on the front lawn of the Turner House, 401 North Rosemont Avenue. This event is free for WHNA neighbors and will run **10:00a** -**Noon**. Play activities for kids will include water tables, sprinklers, and a bounce house. Swimsuits for kids are totally appropriate!

Kids can also enjoy fun arts and craft projects and face painting. Donuts and juice boxes will be available for little ones, while parents can enjoy a mimosa bar for a \$10 donation. So please pack your kids' strollers or wagons, walk over to the Turner House, and join us at this terrific Winnetka Heights' event!



# New Neighbor Spotlight! Al & Elizabeth Dyck



Al and Elizabeth just moved to Dallas after more than two decades in Europe! They most recently lived in Spain, which is where they spent the majority of their time in Europe. They were sad to leave their lifestyle and community in Spain, but they feel very confident that the timing is right for them to live closer to their parents. One blessing they really enjoy about Winnetka Heights is living only three minutes from Elizabeth's sister and her family, who have lived in Oak Cliff for a very long time.

Al and Elizabeth enjoy walking and hiking, and they appreciate that they travel a lot for work. They have two sons and a daughter, and their daughter and her husband live in the Dallas area. Family is very important to them, so they are thrilled to live near family after so many years far away. Another favorite aspect of Winnetka Heights for Al and Elizabeth is the fact that they can easily walk to various cafes, shops, and restaurants, which they especially appreciate after leaving their "carless" lifestyle in Madrid. They look forward to getting to know neighbors!



All events sponsored by Oak Cliff Society of Fine Arts, steward of the Turner House (401 N. Rosemont)

All WHNA neighbors are welcome to attend any of these evenings of entertainment, which include food and wine. More information and tickets to these salons can be purchased through <u>www.turnerhouse.org</u>

#### SPRING SALON SERIES



**The Land Around Us** Thursday, April 18

Landscape architecture shapes our perception and enjoyment of the world around us. Join Madhavi Sonar, principal of Sovi Landscape Architecture, on a journey through our lands.



#### **Poet Scape** Tuesday, May 14

Listen in on Dallas' vibrant poetry scape as the leading poets in our area read their original works. In cooperation with the "Dallas is Lit Festival" produced by the Writer's Garrett.

#### MEMBERS-ONLY BENEFIT - ADVANCE DISCOUNT TICKETS

To support the upkeep and restoration of the Turner House, the Oak Cliff Society of Fine Arts, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, depends on yearly membership dues. Becoming a member of OCSFA affords you discounted tickets to the Salon Series events, as well as early member-only access to discounted tickets for special events. You can learn more about membership and tickets to these events at <u>www.turnerhouse.org</u>. Join OCSFA now and you will have early access to the following upcoming experiences:

#### Daniel Adam Maltz Fortepiano Concert Sunday, April 21st

Enjoy Haydn and Mozart's piano works performed as they intended them to be heard — in a private home on a period instrument. During the Classical era in Vienna, composers expected their keyboard music to entertain relatively small audiences in more intimate settings than today's large concert halls. The era's pianos (known as "fortepianos") are very different from modern Steinways. Fortepianist Daniel Adam Maltz is based in Vienna and studied Historical Performance at the Royal Academy of Music in London and at Vienna's University for Music and Performing Arts. He performs on historic Viennese fortepianos, utilizing the vast range of tones, colors, and techniques familiar to Classicalera composers.

Members Only Tickets available NOW. Not-Yet-Members Tickets will be available at a higher price point. Refreshments will be served.



#### **Gnocchi Making Party with Ari's Pantry** Tuesday, May 7th

OCSFA is proud to present its second Culinary Arts event at the Turner House. Hosted by Winnetka Heights neighbor and business owner Ari Lowenstein, enjoy an evening of authentic Italian food paired with lesser-known Italian wines, learn about the history and science of gnocchi, and make and take home your very own gnocchi as well as a swag bag with sauce and other goodies. Tickets can be purchased soon by OCSFA members at www.turnerhouse.org. Ari's Pantry's Pasta Making Party in February sold out, so we are anticipating this event to be at capacity also. Non-members will be able to purchase seating, if available, closer to the event at a higher price.

### Please Join us for a NOCUPP Area Resident Meeting

Tuesday April 23, 6:30 PM Turner House 401 N. Rosemont Ave. Light Refreshments will be served RSVP to <u>info@nocupp.org</u>

#### Chief Albert Martinez of Dallas ISD PD & DISD Board Member Ben Mackey

Will discuss the role of the DISD Police Department and what every parent should know about lockdowns at DISD campuses when there is a safety issue at a school or in a neighborhood.

#### DPD Senior Corporal & NOCUPP Lead Officer Brian Martinez

Will discuss home security and what you can do to improve security inside and out.



The results of the NOCUPP patrol speak for themselves. The more than 60,000 patrol hours that NOCUPP has delivered to our North Oak Cliff neighborhoods have done a lot to shape our neighborhoods.

Thanks to member support, we have continued the work of making this a better place to live. In 2023, we delivered:

- 3,251 hours of patrol in our neighborhoods.
- 5,819 vacation and construction watches for our members.
- Responded to over 436 calls for service from concerned neighbors.

The NOCUPP neighborhoods have seen a 36% drop in property crime from 2015-2023!

#### How does NOCUPP work?

Membership dues are used to hire experienced, off-duty Dallas Police officers to patrol the streets and alleyways of our neighborhoods in a marked police car. Our daily patrols help prevent crime by providing a regular police presence in member neighborhoods.

## Conservation District Update for South Winnetka Heights, Diane Sherman

Great news! Even though conservation districts (CDs) have existed in Dallas since 1988, no new CDs have been created since Stevens Park in 2011. Now, after tremendous dedication, a total of 95 properties along our southeastern border are coming up for final approval by the City Council on Wednesday, April 24th!

This area is south of W 12th St, north of W Brooklyn Ave and between S Willomet Ave and S Edgefield Ave. Once approved, it will be known as the City of Dallas South Winnetka Heights Conservation District-21, the 8th CD in Oak Cliff and the 18th in the City of Dallas.

The vast majority of the SoWHts properties are either Craftsman or Transitional Bungalow style. During the vetting process, all but 7 of the 95 were deemed architecturally contributing. Only two lots are vacant and only one is a two-story Foursquare. The average age is 95 years. A number of these contain remarkable characteristics. Case report for SoWHts can be found <u>here</u>.



Proposed Conservation District pictured here.

After being discussed amongst neighbors for years, the real process began in August 2019. Since each conservation district is customized to a neighborhood and what the residents want to conserve, a dedicated neighborhood committee was formed. The group worked diligently for years with City Staff to carefully craft both procedures plus architectural and development standards tailored for SoWHts.

Michael Evans served as the Neighborhood Committee Chair and was the organizing force behind the effort early on. When asked for advice, Evans was clear, "More than anything, you just have to take the plunge. We knew there was a need, but you have to get started. You just gotta do it. There's no easy way to get it done."

An impressed and grateful Evans commented on the role of City Staff, in particular Trevor Brown and Scott Bellen, who weren't just working 9-5. Evans describes Brown and Bellen as, "Enthusiastic, extremely helpful, ALWAYS in touch, honest and upfront. They gave us options, making us aware it was always our decision yet making us mindful of what impacts our decisions might have. We had the benefit of their full professional expertise".

Feeling relief on the horizon, Evans shared, "I can't even explain how excited I am to have this finished. We are at the finish line and it feels good". Hopefully more CD's will be approved in the near future. At present, Stevens Park Village, Kidd Springs, Wynnewood North and Glen Oaks have also expressed interest.

As neighbors, we have enjoyed the protection of our historic overlay since 1981. We should applaud the City of Dallas Conservation Program and our neighbors immediately on our southeastern border and prepare to celebrate with them on April 24th pending City Council approval.

Diane Sherman is a longtime resident of Winnetka Heights, founding member and Past President of WHNA, and has served as District 1 Landmark Commissioner since 2013

#### Code Compliance Update, Robbie Christopher

The Landmark Commission has recently made changes to the Certificate of Appropriateness (CA) Application form as well as the Calendar Deadlines for submission. You can access both as well as additional information, including tips and fees <u>here</u>.

Before you submit an application, you may wish to research what CAs and Master Permits have been approved for your property. You can access this information <u>here</u>.

Sherwin-Williams at 510 W. Davis has long been a supporter of our neighborhood. They have offered a 30% year-round discount for our residents by using account number 4894-8613-4. They also offer color consultation and will track your paint colors for 10 years. You can access a free 30 minute virtual color consultation <u>here</u>.

We are fortunate to have Davis Hawn Lumber Company as another strong supporter of our neighborhood events. They are a lumberyard that can mill wood to your specifications and match existing trim, siding, etc. They also offer hardware and supplies and advice. You can find them <u>here</u>.

As always, you may contact <u>code@winnetkaheights.org</u> for questions and assistance.













## Proposed Stop Sign Update on Edgefield, Jordan Gooch

When my wife and I moved into 130 N Edgefield in April 2021, we knew that Edgefield was the busiest street in the neighborhood before we even made an offer on the house. After attending a few neighborhood association meetings and seeing for ourselves how much of a thoroughfare it was I decided to get more involved to help cut down on the traffic cutting through the neighborhood.

One of the first traffic studies I saw showed the number of cars using Edgefield doubled that of Montclair (the next busiest street). Edgefield had nearly 2,000 vehicles a day using it mainly as a cut through. Only about 150 vehicles turned off on either 8th or 9th street. This led me to believe that the major problem plaguing Edgefield was the volume of vehicles. With the help of other neighbors and Councilman Chad West, the traffic island was installed with approval of the neighbors at each corner house at 9th and Edgefield. Initially it seemed to work well, especially with cones defining the outside perimeter and prohibiting vehicles rolling through it without slowing down. Then the cones were taken away and everyone discovered that you did not need to slow down and could just cut through the center of the circle avoiding the curbs surrounding the center sign. Overall the traffic island test was a failure due to poor execution and design by the city. Ultimately, we only saw a small decrease in traffic and speed and a large increase of honking. It seemed that most traffic on Edgefield did not feel that they needed to yield to traffic within the circle. After a wreck we decided to remove the island.

I immediately got to work on stop signs as I wanted very little downtime between the removal of the traffic island and the stop signs going in. I tried to garner as much enthusiasm around the need for traffic calming from neighbors as I could. I started with a yard sign with a QR code that led to my website which had a sign up to my email list. I thought that I could keep everyone that was interested informed about the progress and get some help from time to time. I feel like this was a huge help in the effort. It gave people a place to ask questions to me directly or say they wanted to be involved. The desire for better traffic calming in the neighborhood was significant. It felt like everyone knew how bad Edgefield traffic was and wanted to see it improve. By the end of the petition process I had almost 50 people on the email thread!

Dealing with the city was a different story. I tried to get as much information about my options and what we could pursue and what the city would be inclined to pursue. This not only included 4 way stop signs but speed humps similar to the ones on Rosemont. After several long delays and unanswered emails from city staff they finally got the petition for a 4 way stop at 9th street assigned. Cade Stevens lives at 8th and Edgefield began the petition for a 4 way stop at his intersection and we got to work.

My initial push for signatures was met with a lot of enthusiasm. I was given a table at National Night Out and got several signatures there. Tammy Weiss on Clinton gathered several signatures on her block and for that I am very grateful. The remainder of the signatures were gathered the old fashioned way, door to door. It turns out that not very many people are really willing to answer their door with some random person there. I would always lead with 'I am your neighbor, I live at 9th and Edgefield and I have a petition for stop signs on Edgefield.' That always did the trick. It was great to get out and meet a lot of neighbors that I had never met before. That was the best part of this whole process. I did utilize a flier that had a QR code that again, led back to the website. I also included a note on the flier that said they could text me and I would find time to meet them so they could sign. This was a big help in getting signatures from people that were home at different times or just did not want to initially answer the door. All of this combined with help from other neighbors <u>led to us successfully getting two petitions completed and submitted to the city.</u>

All of this is easy to replicate throughout the neighborhood. If you feel like you need a stop sign at an intersection:

Go to this website <u>https://dallascrm.my.site.com/public/s/</u> Click 'Traffic Signs and Signals' Click 'Traffic Sign New' Follow the prompts

# Winnetka Heights Board Members

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#### INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING? REACH OUT HERE