



## VPNA GENERAL MEETING

We had a great turnout for our January general meeting with Senester King from Dallas Animal Services. Some of the topics of discussion included coyotes (what to do if you see one, how to deter them, what they eat, etc.), Dallas leash laws (yes, you MUST have your pet on a leash...it's against the law to walk your pets off leash unless you are in a designated dog park), and what to do in case you encounter a dangerous dog. Handouts were provided and a question and answer session concluded the meeting. If you'd like a copy of the handouts, please email Laura Funderburk at [laurareverse@gmail.com](mailto:laurareverse@gmail.com).

Our next general meeting will be held on February 19th at 7:00 pm. We have reserved the Barrel room at Times Ten Cellars (6324 Prospect Ave, Dallas, TX 75214) for this special event. Philip Kingston will be there to discuss the hot topic of Accessory Dwelling Units (sometimes referred to as "granny flats"). Information on how to apply for one will be provided, along with instructions for obtaining a neighborhood overlay. Even if you are not interested in having one on your property, it would be good to attend so you can understand how this may affect our neighborhood. If you have questions, there is no better authority on the subject than the folks at Philip Kingston's office. Bring your appetite for good food and wine with you! I hope to see you there!

## INTERESTED IN MORE POLICE PATROLS?

VPNA is looking at participating in the Expanded Neighborhood Patrol Program by hiring off-duty police officers to patrol our neighborhood. The program is coordinated through the Dallas Police Department. ENP is popular and successful in many Dallas neighborhoods in our area. Its purpose is to raise police presence, reduce crime, improve communication, and educate residents. Some benefits of joining ENP:

- Patrols will check on your home when you are on vacation or away for an extended period.
- Patrol officer will know how to contact you if he sees something out of order at your home.
- Police will respond within minutes to your 911 calls when an ENP officer is on duty. You will not have to wait for the next available officer to respond.
- ENP officers will become experts on our neighborhood, able to recognize suspicious activity.
- You may request a home security audit from a Dallas Police officer.

The cost would likely be \$250/household annually. Please take a moment to fill out our survey at the following link: <http://bit.ly/VPNAPatrols>. It takes less than 1 minute and will help us determine how viable the program is. If you prefer, you can email: [info@vickeryplace.com](mailto:info@vickeryplace.com). Anyone who lives in the VPNA boundaries can participate, whether you rent or own. Help keep VPNA safe!

Bulk Trash Pickup is the  
Week of the 2nd Monday

Don't Set Out Trash Before: Thurs, February 7th  
Pick Up Week February 11th-15th  
Weekly Trash & Recycling Pick-up   
Every Monday

Next VPNA General Meeting

Tuesday February 19th at 7:00 pm.  
The Barrel Room at Times Ten Cellars  
(6324 Prospect Ave, Dallas, Tx 75214)

## HISTORY OF J.L. LONG MIDDLE SCHOOL

As the “junior high” movement swept the nation in the early 1930’s, Dallas educators readily embraced the notion, realizing the need for a transitional period between Elementary School and High School. J. L. Long was the second Junior High School built in Dallas, opening its doors to students in September of 1933. The enrollment the first year was 550 students.

The architects were Walter Sharp and Ralph Bryan. Both were collaborative architects for many of the buildings in Fair Park built for the 1936 Centennial Exposition. Renowned architect Mark Lemmon who designed adjacent Woodrow Wilson High School, was the consulting architect for Long’s addition in 1951, and later was the architect for the 1959 addition. The architectural style of the school is modified Elizabethan—not quite as traditional or formal as the abutting Woodrow HS, but still with some of the characteristics—dark red brick, the castle like turret at the auditorium, and the fancy finials along the top. Art Deco was becoming the popular style in the early 30’s—you can see this in some of the decorative scroll work and stylizing on the front of the building, as well as the fixtures on the interior. There is a lot of symbolism found on the exterior front of the building—the carved books above each entrance represent the “Book of Knowledge”, and reflect “1933” as the year of the opening of the school, the two baskets on either side of the entrance represent the “Fruits of Knowledge”. The carved beehive symbolizes “community, cooperation and hard work, and the sweetness that comes as a result”.

C.W. Morris was principal for the first 16 years. He thought of the handsome new school as his ship, and he its captain, saying, “We run a tight ship!” Thus came the nautical theme--the athletic teams were (and still are today) referred to as the Buccaneers, the student newspaper was entitled The Long Log, and the student handbook was known as the Anchor.

In 1934, students watched as well-known local artist Olin Travis painted the “Food” mural in the school library. It was one of the WPA arts projects produced in Dallas during the Depression. Mr. Travis is also known for two murals he painted in the Hall of State at Fair Park.

John Lawson Long, the school’s namesake, was Superintendent of Dallas schools at the turn of the 20th century. He made many contributions to the Dallas Educational System and helped lay the

foundation for the Dallas School District. Mr. Long died in June 1933. The Dallas School Board seeking to honor his memory chose to name the new Junior High School in his honor. Mr. Long’s resolve to provide students with a classical education, as well as build strong character, still continues today.

There have been three more building additions in more recent years starting in 1977 with the addition of the back portion of the main building, in 2006 with the addition of the wing to include the new incoming 6th graders, and the current two-story addition to be completed in 2019 on the campus’ south end. It will include 22 classrooms, a new band and orchestra suite, expansion to the cafeteria and other small improvements.

In 2004, J. L. Long Middle School was proudly design-

ated a Dallas Historical Landmark recognizing the school for all its contributions to the community and the architectural historical importance to the City of Dallas. (Information from the school archives and the application for landmark designation)



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY VICKERY PLACE NA!

This February, as we enter into our 38th year as an organized neighborhood association, we celebrate the residents of Vickery Place and its mission which includes preserving the neighborhood and improving the quality of life within our neighborhood and our city. Below is how it all began!

~ Excerpt from a series of articles titled ‘A Snapshot of Vickery Place...1982’, by Linda Mitchell, published in the 2007 VPNA Newsletters.

A Neighborhood Association Was Born ...1982

On January 28, 1982, nearly 100 Vickery Place neighbors gathered together in the basement of the Greenville Avenue Christian Church for a meeting with representatives of the Dallas Department of Housing and Neighborhood Services to consider the future of the neighborhood.

At the meeting the staff presented the results of

an extensive neighborhood study conducted during December of 1981 and then attendees provided feedback on those results. The staff also presented an inventory of needs for public facilities and services and listed recent accomplishments for the neighborhood. Marvin Krout (Planning Manager) said that in his opinion, neighborhoods with neighborhood associations generally do better than neighborhoods without. During the meeting, approximately 30 neighbors signed a list indicating that they were interested in participating in a neighborhood association, and it was from this list that the North Henderson Neighborhood Association was born. (Later the name was changed to the Vickery Place Neighborhood Association.)



## VICKERY PLACE GIVES BACK!

Your donations to VPNA help in so many ways! Thanks to your support, we were able to donate \$1,000.00 to JL Long Middle School. The funds will be used over the course of the next few weeks to provide transportation to all DISD 5th graders to visit Long Elementary. They will all attend an orientation which will provide them with a foundational knowledge of the requirements and standards for the application to the International Baccalaureate (IB) program offered by JL Long to all incoming 6th grade students. The support we provided to our feeder school will allow the students and staff of all DISD to continue to thrive. Thank you, our neighborhood, for making this possible!



Left to right: Vice Principal and IB Coordinator from JL Long receive a check from Laura Funderburk, VPNA President

## DONATION TO GENEVA HEIGHTS

Last December as the VPNA fiscal year was winding down, the NA made a \$1500 donation to Geneva Heights Elementary School. Not knowing where additional funds were most needed, we let the PTA and parent volunteers who assist in the school's donation-based initiatives decide where to best allocate the funds. Based on our preference of help fulfill some of the teacher needs, a Teacher Funding Request process has been created at the school. Through this, VPNA's donation has been able to provide items for several teachers.

One teacher was very grateful to receive a seating carpet that now fits all of her kids. Other teachers are in the process of receiving various learning materials and teaching aids. The teachers are very appreciative of the support, here is a quote from one of them:

"As a teacher, it's inspiring to know that I have the support of my community and please know that I will make very good use of everything you have provided."

Thanks to all of the neighbors who contributed so that Vickery Place NA could make this donation, and thanks to the hard-working parents, teachers and staff who are making Geneva Heights



Ring in the new year with a new kitchen.



FEATURED: *Clermont Street*



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the outstanding elementary school it is today! A big shout out to Jenn & Ken Dawkins, Scott Clark, Luke Rice, Jenn Kohler, Adam Miller, and Susan Boyles just to name a few.

VPNA is currently in the process of making a donation to J.L. Long Middle School, and in the future will make a donation to Woodrow Wilson HS. Investing in our local schools, is an investment in our future leaders!



## HOME MAINTENANCE TIPS

Five things you should do to maintain your home:

1. Clean out your dryer vent each year. Do it now if you just recently purchased the home as you do not know when it was last cleaned out. If the dryer vent gets clogged, it can burn up your machine, or worse, burn up your house!
2. Schedule an HVAC maintenance for fall and spring. Don't forget to change those filters once a season also! Doing this will help your system last longer and help you save on energy costs.
3. Clean your gutters! This should be done at least once a year. Check them regularly and clean if they are clogged. Clogged gutters can cause damage to the roof, foundation or wood fascia, among other things.
4. Have your home inspected for insect/rodent damage. Termites can wreak havoc on wooden homes and rodents chew wires, posing a fire hazard.
5. Replace the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. This should be done twice a year. After replacement, be sure to push the "test" button so you can ensure that the new batteries are not defective.

A little maintenance can go a long way towards prolonging the life of your home as well as your loved ones inside!



## COMMUNITY GARDENING DAY AT GENEVA HEIGHTS

Spring is fast approaching! The next Community Garden Day at Geneva Heights Elementary is Saturday, February 23rd from 9am – 12pm. The master gardeners are having a truck of mulch delivered that will need to be spread on a number of beds around the campus. Just show up at the school, 2911 Delmar Avenue, with gardening gloves in hand and ready to get down & dirty!

~ Shelley Broyles, GHE 1st Grade Parent & Amateur Garden Enthusiast



## DIGITAL EDITIONS

Would you like to receive an email version of this newsletter? Visit our website ([www.vickeryplace.com](http://www.vickeryplace.com)) or our facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/VickeryPlace>) to sign up.

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