



# Vickery Place Neighborhood NEWS

GREENVILLE-BELMONT-HENDERSON-CENTRAL-GOODWIN

P.O. BOX 720192 DALLAS, TEXAS 75372 VOICEMAIL: (214) 967-5134 WWW.VPNA.ORG



## FEBRUARY MEETING

**Date:** Thurs., Feb. 13th  
**Time:** 7p.m.  
**Place:** Vickery Towers at Belmont & Greenville

**Please join us for an informative discussion on Conservation in Vickery Place.**

**A gift basket will be handed out as a door prize.**

*(See page 7 for details)*

### Bonham Elementary February Calendar

Feb / febrero 10 -  
Avance Program / Programa de Avance 8-11 a.m.

Feb / febrero 11 -  
Nutrition Classes for Parents / Clase de Nutricion para Padres 10-11:30 a.m.

Feb / febrero 11 -  
Boy Scouts Meeting / Junta de Boy Scouts 4-4:45 p.m.

Feb / febrero 17 -  
President's Day - No School / Dia de los Presidentes - No hay escuela

Feb / febrero 27 -  
PTA Meeting / Junta de PTA 6:00



### Bulky Trash Basura Abultado

**Don't Set Out Trash Before:**  
*Thursday, February 6th*

**Pick Up Week:**  
*February 10th - 14th*

Complete 2003 Bulky Trash Calendar on Page 3

## VICKERY PLACE CONSERVATION

Thursday's meeting will focus on the progress of the Conservation District Committee. The volunteers have collected hundreds of signatures. And the Committee has



drafted a preliminary map for the proposed district.

The creation of a Conservation District has been a long term process. The work began in 1998. The then "Historic" Committee and VPNA Board decided to determine the level of interest in creating some form of historic protection for the neighborhood.

VPNA began hosting a series of meetings to educate and inform residents of the possible options, which include "Historic District," "Conservation District" and "Planned Development District". Meetings were held about the advantages

and disadvantages of each type of district, with speakers from each type of district. At a General Meeting in November of 2001 the decision was made to pursue designation as a conservation district.

Additional meetings were held about the architectural and historic importance of Vickery Place. Articles

explaining the styles of homes in Vickery Place were published during 1998, 1999, and 2000. Those articles remain available at VPNA.org. The VPNA Home Tours of 1999, 2000, and 2001 exposed large numbers of people to the importance of Vickery Place.

Now, the process will enter a new phase. The Conservation District Committee wants additional comments and input prior to submitting the petition process to the City for review.

Please plan to attend this Thursday meeting as well as other meetings so that you will have the opportunity to participate in the conservation process.

## KROGER CARD UPDATE

The third quarter update has been issued and Vickery Place is doing great! We currently have recorded sales of **\$57,132.80** with the Kroger card, of which we receive 1% for a current amount of **\$571.00**.

If anyone has any questions or needs a Kroger Card, contact the Vickery Place voice mail or email.

**CRIME STATS**

Robbery	12/04/02	51XX Willis Ave
Theft	12/01/02	28XX N Henderson Ave
Theft	12/08/02	53XX Miller Ave
Theft	12/07/02	53XX Miller Ave
Theft	12/29/02	50XX Vickery
Theft	12/29/02	50XX Vickery
Theft	12/21/02	53XX Willis
Auto Theft	12/09/02	53XX Richard
Other Assault	12/17/02	52XX Bonita
Fraud	11/15/02	53XX Belmont
Vandal	12/14/02	53XX Miller
Vandal	12/08/02	51XX Richard
Vandal	12/08/02	51XX Richard
Theft	12/04/02	56XX Miller
Theft	12/31/02	55XX Richard
Auto Theft	12/20/02	56XX Willis

**FIRST MEETING OF THE NEW YEAR BRINGS TOGETHER OLD FRIENDS AND NEW**

Former Vickery Place resident and pianist, **William Foley**, set the pace for an enjoyable evening as residents of Vickery Towers and Vickery Place gathered for the January meeting of



Pianist William Foley

VPNA. William played several selections on the Baby Grand Piano while folks were being seated and before the business meeting began.

President, **Morris Smart**, brought the meeting to order then introduced the 2003 members of the board.

Morris voiced advertising coordinator, **Candy Hearne's** request of the membership for any advertising leads for the newsletter. He then gave a short summary of the various committees and issues that are important to Vickery Place and invited everyone to get involved.

Interactive Community Police Officer **J. T. Johnson** gave us a run down of crime issues relating to Vickery Place and the surrounding area. Officer Johnson reported that overall crime statistics for our neighborhood are down in spite of the year-end holiday which often causes an increase. Neighborhood involvement



Les Wollam & Morris Smart

and reporting of suspicious activity were credited for keeping those numbers low. (Please read article titled **NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME WATCH** on page 5 for a comprehensive report.)

With the conclusion of the business meeting, Morris introduced our guest speaker, nationally recognized photographer and Vickery Place resident, **Les Wollam**.

Les recounted that his interests in photography began when his father, a schoolteacher in the US Air Force, moved his family to Seville, Spain. With the beauty of Spain all around him, Les began to realize a desire to capture it in photographs. That interest in photography continued during his own military tour with the Navy. After his service commitment was fulfilled, he attended design school in Southern California.

Les has enjoyed an impressive and interesting

career based on corporate photography. He has photographed oil wells, windmills, utilities operations, cranes, turbines and solar collectors. His subjects include Mount Fuji, the Castle of Ludwig, and the French Room at the Adolphus; cities such as Dallas, Paris and New York; the Dallas Stars, the bosses dog and sunsets everywhere.

The presentation was entertaining, informative and clearly enjoyed by all.

The evening ended with the opportunity to chat with Les, visit with the Vickery Place Board Members and to enjoy the wonderful cake topped with the VPNA logo compliments of another one of our talented neighbors.

**The Nest**

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## GLENCOE PARK – *The Vickery Place Crown!*




Many an exercise program has started with a vow to regularly stroll the tree-lined half mile distance from Vickery Place to Glencoe Park. In fact, one can be sure our short but frigid winter is behind us once the stream of walkers returns to Glencoe Road, making the ritual round-trip to “the Park” every evening. Although not within the boundaries of Vickery Place, the 15 acre park is often thought of as “our” neighborhood park, since it is one of the closest and most accessible parks in the area. A mature canopy of trees rings the Park like a crown, establishing the boundary of a true neighborhood jewel, which is often taken for granted.

Concerned that Glencoe Park is suffering from neglect, Greenland Hills’ resident (and Crime Watch Chair) Sheryl Bartlett approached the City last May with ideas for improving the Park. The result was the formation of the Glencoe Park Master Plan Task Force, whose recommendations were adopted by the City Park and Recreation Board on January 23. The new Master Plan for Glencoe Park envisions a long list of needed improvements, including new playground equipment, a picnic pavilion, refurbished tennis courts, re-oriented softball fields, and a bicycle/jogging path, just to name a few.

Acquired by the City in 1944, Glencoe Park now accommodates a wide variety of activities: including a children’s playground, regular rugby games, softball leagues, tennis tournaments, and constant pick-up basketball games. Increasingly, Glencoe Park also has become a center for neighborhood activities. In December, the newly organized Greenland Hills Neighborhood Association used the Park to host its first “Christmas in the Park,” and the month before, Glencoe Park served as staging area for the first M-Street 5-K, benefiting the Greenland Hills Crime Watch. The M-Street run cut a considerable swath through Vickery Place before returning to the Park. (VPNA board member Todd McCavit finished in the top 20 with an impressive 20:29!). Additionally, the Katy Trail will be extended north through Glencoe Park this year, making the Park an attractive access point. According to Michael Hellmann, a Senior Park Planner who coordinated much of the work of the Task Force, such a large number of uses is unusual for a park the size Glencoe Park. The wide ranging and increasing use of the park made this an opportune time to undertake a study for the park’s long range improvement.

If you feel like you were left “out of the loop” during the master plan process, you are correct. Vickery Place was not within the 500 foot notification range used by the City. Mr. Helmand emphasized, however, that a Master Plan is a flexible guide to improvements, and continued input by interested residents will significantly effect the actual development of the Park.

Additionally, no plan is better than its funding. Funding to implement the entire Master Plan is estimated at nearly \$1.9 million, and likely would require a combination of public and private money over the course of several years. The \$360 million City bond package currently under discussion originally included a staff recommendation for over \$133,000 in Glencoe Park improvements, with \$126,000 thought to be dedicated to rebuilding the children’s playground. Unfortunately, as of January 22, most of the proposed Glencoe Park funding had been removed in favor of other park projects, and all that remained was \$7,300 for a new park sign. Although the scope and size of the bond package remains a fluid situation, it will be fixed in early February. If you would like to see bond funding restored for Glencoe Park improvements, you should contact your city council member as soon as possible.



**GREAT SELECTION OF BEERS FROM BELGIUM, GERMANY, ENGLAND, AND IRELAND. LIVELY PATIO AND PUB STYLE MENU.**

**“BEST PUB”**  
DALLAS OBSERVER 1999

**2847 HENDERSON AVE  
PH. (214)821 1880  
MON-FRI 4pm-2am  
SAT/SUN NOON-2am**

**ALL ABOUT ROAD HUMPS**

The City of Dallas allows the installation of road humps in certain cases as a tool for slowing traffic through residential areas. Road humps are not intended to reduce the volume of traffic, although this may be a secondary result. The City has a well defined policy for determining eligibility for road humps.

**Location and street characteristics:** The street segment to be considered must be a minimum of 1000 feet in length. In most of VP, this means two blocks of east/west streets. The speed limit must be 30MPH, which is the limit throughout VP. The street must not be a primary emergency response route.

The blocks must be comprised of low density residential buildings.

**Petitions:** A petition must



be filed with the city that documents that a minimum of two-thirds of the households on the affected blocks support the installation of road humps. Additionally, the proposed locations for the road humps must be approved by the residents in front of whose houses the humps are to be installed.

**City Traffic Survey:** The City Department of Public Works, upon receipt of the petition, will conduct a survey of traffic on the proposed blocks. In order for the blocks to qualify, the traffic volume must be between 500 and 8000 vehicles per day. Most streets in VP fall into this category. Additionally, The speeds of the vehicles will be measured. At least 85% of the cars must be traveling 35 MPH or higher.

**Cost:** The cost of the installation includes the road humps themselves, plus warning signs and pavement striping. The cost will be determined by the City at the time of the traffic survey. It varies, depending on the conditions for each location. The cost may be shared by the City, but is usually shared

equally by the residents who signed the petition. The City's share of the cost is determined by the average speeds, as measured in the traffic survey.

**85<sup>th</sup> Percentile Speed Residents' Cost Share**

35 MPH	100%
36 MPH	80%
37 MPH	60%
38 MPH	40%
39 MPH	20%
40 MPH	0%

To obtain further information about qualifying for road humps, contact Alex Wong at the City of Dallas Department of Public Works, at 214-670-4654.

Thank you for hosting [www.VPNA.org](http://www.VPNA.org)

## NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME WATCH

### Senior Corporal J. T. Johnson Reports on Crime Issues in Vickery Place

Corporal Johnson is with the Interactive Community Police Division of the Dallas Police Department. The division, referred to as ICP, was created in 1995 to establish a cooperative program between the police officers and the community. VPNA has been fortunate to have Corporal Johnson on hand at our general meetings to update us on issues concerning our neighborhood. If you have questions or concerns you may reach the ICP office at 214-670-4420.

Overall crime statistics for Vickery Place were down in 2002 reported Johnson. He credited neighborhood participation in reporting suspicious activity as partly responsible for the decrease. He went on to add that the beat that encompasses Vickery Place is enlarging the boundaries. The beat number, 141, will remain the same but it will now include Capitol, Fitzhugh and Ross Avenue; consequently, this change will probably result in an increase of crime statistics due to heavier crime in the area surrounding those streets.

Johnson reported that a Task Force on Drugs is currently being launched which will involve participation of ICP officers. He emphasized the importance of being specific in identifying location, time and patterns of conduct when reporting drug suspected activity.

Inquiries from the floor included the graffiti that has been prominent in the neighborhood. Johnson said the gang unit is working on the problem, but it is believed to be juvenile rather than gang related. Another neighbor asked the procedure for getting a stop sign installed at a corner where there has previously been no traffic sign. An engineering study or a petition would be two avenues for exploration. Contact Mohamed Bah at 214-670-4471 for details.

## KEEPSAKE HOLDS OLD VALENTINES

I found these beautiful old valentines in a 1922 keepsake book titled, The Girl Graduate, Her Own Book. They are delicate, trimmed with lace doilies, hearts and flowers and carry sentimental messages such as the one below.



*“ Of course You may be bashful  
But think how much ‘twould please me  
If you would be my valentine and  
try no more to tease me.”*

The book was owned and recorded by Mabel Baker when she graduated from Fannin to North Dallas High School.

Mabel grew up in Dallas and had resided on both Ridgedale and Goliad streets.

Happy Valentine's Day Vickery Place!

~ Contributed by Shelia Huffman

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CLOSED SUNDAY

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## CHARITABLE CHOCOLATE

*Zel Nealy*, Certified Chocolatier, got her start right here in **Vickery Place**. *Zel* says she was born a chocolaholic but her self-taught attempts at candy making were not always producing satisfactory results. Realizing her talent, *Zel's* siblings, 2 brothers and 4 sisters, got together enough money to send her to the *Culinary Institute of America* for the Artisan Chocolate and Candies Program.

Now *Zel* has started **Dallas Chocolates**. She currently has 16 confections including truffles, bark, toffees and peanut brittle. Each chocolate is named for a Dallas Philanthropist with a portion of the sales going to that Dallasite's charity. For example, *Kidds Kruch*, named for *Kidd Kraddick*, benefits *Kidd's Kids*. Other do-good namesakes include *Sis Carr*, the *Bob Dedman Family* and *Shirley Pollack*. Recipients of the proceeds include *North Texas Food Bank*, *Baylor Healthcare*, *Foundation for Sick Children* and *Friends of the Library*.

*Zel's* new storefront located at 2805 Allen St., Suite 113, opens February 1<sup>st</sup>, just in time for Valentine's Day. For more information on **Dallas Chocolates**, call 214-559-7277.

**Be on hand for this month's VPNA meeting on February 13 and you may be the lucky winner of a chocolate gift basket.**

## RAGTIME ROCKY ROAD

- 2 Milk Chocolate Hershey Bars (½ pound each)
- 3 Cups Miniature Marshmallows
- ¾ Cup Coarsely Broken Walnuts or Pecans

Melt chocolate bars in top of double boiler over warm water; stir in marshmallows and nuts. Spread in buttered 8-in square pan. Chill. Cut when firm.  
Yield 16 squares.

~ Contributing Editor, *Shelia Huffman*



## FEBRUARY YARD OF THE MONTH

February's Yard of the Month is 5627 Vickery, home of Katherine Listi. Katherine has lived in this 1920's arts and crafts style home for 10 years and was even part of the home tour in 2001.



5627 Vickery

While most of our yards are void of much color, Katherine's is alive with reds, green and purples. Red-tinted bricks, in a woven pattern lead up several steps from the street to the spacious front porch. By the porch are two large planting areas. The one on the right is full of brilliant red and gold colors in nandinas and touches of purple and green from Chinese fringe flowers. The left side of the walkway has a mixture of styles and cultures. Pottery fragments peek out between rocks that line the bed, and a southwestern-style ceramic lizard suns itself next to a Japanese lantern. There's also Texas sage and barberry in this bed. As you turn to go up the steps to the porch, you'll notice a beautiful rustic chair that Katherine made, as well as the hand painted blanket chest and coffee table on the porch.

### Tips on birdseed:

- Shelled, unsalted peanuts attract cardinals, woodpeckers, chickadees, nuthatches and several others.
- Thistle seed attracts finches, juncos and indigo buntings.
- Safflower attracts cardinals, chickadees and titmice. Starlings, grackles and squirrels do not like them. Grackles and starlings can sometimes take over a feeder.
- Sunflower meats are a favorite of woodpeckers and cardinals, nuthatch and many others.
- Robins don't eat seed, so you can leave soft pieces of bread, raisins or currants (or other dried berries) on the ground in your yard or garden.

### Never give birds:

- Seed that has been salted or that has a spicy coating on it.
- Rancid or molded foods
- Excessively sugary foods

**Plant:** onions, potatoes, asparagus or other cold-tolerant veggies. Petunias, snapdragons, cannas and daylilies can still be planted. Transplant existing landscape plants or crowded summer-blooming perennials.

**Fertilize:** You can fertilize all planting areas with 100% organic fertilizers at 20lbs per 1,000 sq. ft.

**Prune:** Evergreens and summer-blooming plants. Shade and ornamental trees to remove dead or diseased limbs.

Even though it's cold, water very dry soil and winter annuals.

Happy Gardening!  
~ Sandi



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Leslie Farrell, Vice President  
Shelia Huffman, Secretary  
Todd McCavit, Treasurer

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Candy Hearn  
Amy Brillhart  
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Bruce Thomas  
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*The Vickery Place Neighborhood News is published by the Vickery Place Neighborhood Association. For advertising rates and information, call the VPNA voice mail at 214-967-5134.*

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