



NOVEMBER ANNUAL MEETING RECAP

The mezzanine level of the Greenville Bar & Grill was filled with neighbors for the VPNA annual meeting on November 17th. Nomination Committee chair Alun Urquhart announced the slate of candidates put forth by the committee for the 2016 VPNA Board of Directors. There were also two nominations from the floor. The proposed slate, along with the floor nominations, was unanimously voted into office.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to the 2016 VPNA Board of Directors: President Rob Irvin, Vice-President Gary Hicks, Secretary Michael Lugo, Treasurer Wally Bettles, Members at Large: Beth Bentley, Debbie Simurda, Dustin Ortmann, Loveleen Kulkarni, Nora Clark, Selena Urquhart, and Tim Clyde. Congratulations and welcome!

A big Thank You goes out to the 2015 VPNA Board and Committee members for their time and diligence, making our neighborhood such a great place to live! We would also like to thank Greenville Bar & Grill owner Shawn Foley and his staff for providing the meeting space, good food & drink and great service.



THANK YOU NEWSLETTER CARRIERS!

This monthly newsletter is made possible by committed neighborhood volunteers, especially Laura Funderburk who coordinates and schedules the volunteers who hand-deliver the newsletters to your door each month.



DALLAS ISD CHOICE SCHOOL PROGRAM

Mike Koprowski, Chief of Transformation and Innovation for Dallas ISD and Vickery Place resident, gave an overview of the new Choice School program at the VPNA Annual Meeting. DISD's goal is to create 35 Choice Schools by 2020. Choice Schools offer the same types of specialized academic options as Magnet Schools, such as Montessori, Science/Technology, Dual Language and Fine Arts, but will not have academic entry requirements—open to all students across the district, they will have a balance of students from all socioeconomic backgrounds.

One such Choice School is the Solar Preparatory School for Girls opening next school year in the former Bonham School on Henderson, with a Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math (STEAM) curriculum. Initially K-2, it will add grades each year, growing to 8th grade. Applications accepted in January. Learn more at dallasisd.org/choice, e-mail choice@dallasisd.org or call (972) 925-3306.



VPNA SMART CLASSROOM SPONSORSHIP

We made our goal! At the December 8th PTA meeting Vickery Place will present to Lee Elementary School the funds for our Smart Classroom sponsorship. Thank you to all who generously donated.

Bulk Trash
Week of the 2nd Monday
Don't Set Out Trash Before:
Thursday, December 10th
Pick Up Week December 14th - 18th
Weekly Trash & Recycling Pick-up
Every Monday



CITY OF DALLAS SANITATION SERVICES HOLIDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

Friday Dec. 25 collections will take place on Wednesday Dec. 23. McCommas Bluff Landfill, City transfer stations and the Administration office will all be closed on Christmas and New Year's. Friday Jan. 1 collections will take place on Wednesday Dec. 30.

Roll carts must be put out by 7 a.m. and should be three feet apart so collection equipment can maneuver around them. For more information on roll cart options, click here. Sanitation Services provides many programs and services including garbage collection, single-stream recycling collection, residential brush and bulky item collection, recycling drop-off locations, e-waste drop-off locations, household hazardous waste collection events (in partnership with Dallas County), and dead animal pickup.



AMAZON SMILE & KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS

There are two new ways to support Vickery Place Neighborhood Association. VPNA is now a registered charity

with Amazon Smile and Kroger Community Rewards. A few simple steps with each of these organizations will help raise funds to support more neighborhood activities, such as our sponsorship of the Smart Classroom at Lee. (continued on page 2.)

For Amazon Smile:

1. Log on to your account on amazon.com
2. Go to 'My Account'
3. Scroll down and select 'Change Your Charity'
4. In the 'Or pick your own charitable organization' search for 'Vickery Place'
5. Select 'Vickery Place Neighborhood Association'.
6. Save your selection.

IMPORTANT: when you return to shop at amazon, use the URL: **smile.amazon.com** to direct a portion of the proceeds of eligible purchases to VPNA

For Kroger Community Rewards:

1. Sign into your Kroger Rewards digital account.
2. Select "My Account".
3. Scroll down to the 'Community Rewards' section of your account page.
4. Select 'Enroll Now' or 'Edit'.
5. Enter the name of the organization you wish to support. Select 'Vickery Place Neighborhood Association' and click on 'Save'.

Any transactions moving forward using the card number associated with your Kroger digital account will be applied to the Community Rewards program. It takes about 10 days for the Community Rewards totals to begin displaying on your receipt.

Both these men
WILL FIGHT FOR YOU!

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FROM THE DECEMBER 2005 ISSUE

Here are a few holiday reminders to help keep your home and yourself safe while shopping during the holidays:

For your home:

- Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows at all times
- Large displays of holiday gifts should not be visible through the windows and doors of your home
- If you leave your home in the evening, be sure to turn on lights and even leave a television or radio on to make the house appear as if someone is home

If you leave town:

- Remember to postpone mail and newspaper services
- Use automatic timers for lights
- Ask a neighbor or friend to watch your home, possibly park their car in your driveway from time to time (and pick up your mail and newspapers and any packages that may have been delivered while you were gone.)
- After Christmas, DO NOT advertise your new electronics and/or other new valuables that you have just received by putting the boxes out on the curb for bulk pick up. This is an advertisement to thieves.

While Shopping:

- Stay alert to your surroundings and the people around you. If you see people "hanging around" parking garages, parking lots, or the outside of stores, avoid the area. Notify the police or security department
- Shop before dark if possible. Park in a well lit area
- When approaching your car, keep your keys in hand and

inspect the interior and area around your car BEFORE you unlock your vehicle

- ALWAYS lock your car – even if you are only gone for a few minutes
 - Keep packages and valuables out of sight
 - To discourage purse snatchers, don't overburden yourself with packages
 - Do not carry excessive amounts of cash · Be extra careful with purses and wallets. Carry a purse under your arm with the strap across your body.
- Keep a wallet in an inside jacket pocket, not a back trouser pocket
- Remind your children about your families safety procedures while shopping in the busy stores this season

Be safe and enjoy the holidays! ~Bill Gustashaw

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Vickery Place Listings and Solds

The tables below represent the properties listed and sold, and their most recent asking price, within Vickery Place, per the MLS from 10/15/15– 11/30/15. If you would like a full report, sold prices or to see what your home value is please call or email me and I will be happy to assist.

Active	
5225 Goodwin Avenue	\$459,000
5115 Miller Avenue	\$559,000
5316 Richard Avenue	\$349,000
5411 Vickery Boulevard	\$849,900
5545 Vickery Boulevard	\$900,000
5243 Willis Avenue	\$810,000
5319 Willis Avenue	\$775,000
5420 Willis Avenue	\$565,000

Under Contract	
5307 Belmont Avenue	\$269,000
5419 Bonita Avenue	\$859,900
5238 Goodwin Avenue	\$475,000
5354 Goodwin Avenue	\$420,000
5107 Vickery Boulevard	\$499,995
5341 Willis Avenue	\$375,000
5219 Willis Avenue	\$369,900
5440 Willis Avenue	\$398,500
5527 Willis Avenue	\$529,000

Sold			
	List Price	Sold Date	Sold Price
5509 Miller Avenue	\$285,000	11/23/2015	Contact me



Expertise and Knowledge

As a full-time real estate professional, I have the necessary experience to see you through your home buying, selling or renting process. There's no substitute for expertise. I invite you to use mine to assist you in buying or selling a home.



Please be advised that while the MLS is deemed to be reliable it is not guaranteed.

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- Chris J, Vickery Place Resident



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VPNA YARD OF THE MONTH—2015

We shall not cease from exploration. And the end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we started and know the place for the first time. T.S.Eliot



Every month we set out to discover the perfect Yard of the Month to represent that month's winner. We walk and drive miles and miles through Vickery Place searching for just the right yard, trying all the while to vary our criteria. Simplicity reigns one month, while exotic may capture the next.

Ours is a diverse neighborhood and the yards reflect this. Like the varied plants we have written about and photographed, we have come upon the most wonderful neighbors; Dallas natives and welcome transplants. We have listened to love stories and tales of loss.

2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President - Selena Urquhart
Secretary - Pam Thomas
Treasurer - Wally Bettes

Members at Large:

Beth Bentley, Tim Clyde, Rob Irvin,
Gary Hicks, Debbie Simurda, Joe Penland

Vickery Place's newsletter is published by
Vickery Place Neighborhood Association.

Editor: alun@vickeryplace.com

For sponsorship rates and information
email info@vickeryplace.org

We've learned Dusty miller gets its name from English gardeners who nicknamed it for the flour-like coating of the miller's. Pansies are nicknamed monkey faces. Famous musicians have inhabited some of the houses.

I think T.S. Eliot was trying to tell us "there is no place like home"



From Debbie Simurda, the photographer and Mary Kay Henley, the wordsmith, your Yard of the Month editors, come Best Wishes of the Season and hopes that 2016 brings in the best of years for you and yours in this Vickery Place Neighborhood we call home.

~Beautification Committee, Mary Kay Henley & Debbie Simurda



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