



December 2013 Edition

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800/900 MAIN STREET PROJECT

The City of Dallas and the City of Dallas Urban Renewal Agency is pleased to announce the grand reopening of the 800 and 900 block of Main Street in Downtown Dallas. The primary goal of the City Council and Urban Renewal Agency is to improve downtown Dallas through investment in public amenities downtown. The 800 and 900 blocks are the busiest and considered to be the premiere blocks downtown. The dramatic improvements recently completed represent the most intensive Urban Renewal project in Dallas to date.

The project removed and replaced all the existing sidewalks, widened the sidewalks by 6 feet, reduced the width of the travel lanes to 16 feet, repaved the street surface, removed all the existing street lights and their overhead wires and replaced them with decorative lighting equipped to be installed with hanging baskets and banners. The project also removed all the existing benches and garbage cans and will replace them with new designs. Bike racks will be added, flower pots will be added, and eco-friendly rain gardens are included, as well as trees that are better suited to the downtown location. In addition, the "bulb-out" areas at the intersections have been removed and replaced with larger, better-designed ones. Total cost of the project was approximately \$650,000 of Urban Renewal Agency money.



MAYOR'S SPACE

This last Saturday a pretty big crowd held a dedication ceremony for our Main Street revitalization project on the Courthouse Square in downtown Dallas. This was not an insignificant event. It represented the culmination of years of planning, the abiding commitment of dozens of people, and the support of the downtown businesses and the many citizens who value our historic center, our commercial fabric, and the soul of our community. Again and again, surveys, conversations and anecdotal observations highlight that our community greatly values our historic square around which we gather as a community. It is part and parcel of our culture, what makes us unique, an enrichment of an old-fashioned style of living that has enduring substance in our modern era of big box stores, franchise shops, and fast food.

Saturday represented the high point so far in our urban renewal endeavor. For the past few years, we've been tackling smaller, one-block sidewalk projects, building our experience, techniques, and materials, learning along the way what works well in the complex world of renovating worn-out infrastructure that was built somewhat willy-nilly over a century ago. First we redid Mill Street, then Court Street, then two blocks of Church Street, and now the two big blocks of Main Street.

Driving down the now beautiful street, more than ever the fabric of our historic buildings becomes evident. The next major phase of our renewal process is working closely with the Main Street building owners and tenants to restore the elegance of their façades with repairs, paint, and new signage, recapturing the vitality of our historic architecture.

What brought us all to downtown on that cold, crisp Saturday morning will continue on for another 10 years of the Urban Renewal Plan. Look forward to more refreshing and revitalizing of our downtown and its surroundings. This is what's big happening in Dallas, honoring our past as we build for our future. If you aren't already, become involved.



COVER OREGON

Cover Oregon is the new Online Marketplace where Oregonians can compare and enroll in health insurance that fits their needs and budget, and access to financial help to pay for it. Polk County Service Integration has Cover Oregon Outreach Specialists who are trained and ready to answer questions and help people through the application process. These services are being offered in both English and Spanish with evening and weekend hours to meet the needs of local families. For a complete list of our locations and hours please visit the Polk County website at <http://www.co.polk.or.us/hs/ccf/si/cover-oregon>.



Cover Oregon Outreach Specialists are available in Dallas at the following location:

The Academy Building
182 SW Academy St., Suite 333
Dallas, OR 97338

Monday: 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday: 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday: 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Thursday: 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Friday: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Can't make it in to see us on a weekday?
Special Weekend hours will be offered on the following dates:

Saturday, December 7
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Dallas Location - 182 SW Academy St., Suite 333

Saturday, December 14
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Independence Location - 535 G Street

For more information or to schedule and appointment for application assistance, please call:
503.623.9664 ext. 2592.

For help in Spanish please call:
503.838.2745 ext. 1935

LIBRARY NEWS

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Story Time: Every Tuesday & Thursday 11:15 – 11:45 a.m.

Infant/Toddler

Tuesdays

Preschool

Thursdays

December

7th - Book Discussion

12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Major Pettigrew's Last Stand: A Novel

By Helen Simonson

Next Month: Open discussion of favorites and titles to read in 2014.

14th - LEGO Saturday

come build & design - 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

14th - Hobby Day at the Library - 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Oven Clay Creations by Danielle

Each month the library will host a new hobby for you to enjoy. If you would like to exhibit your collection or hobby, please come in or call the library at 503.623.2633.

24th - **Open 11:00 am - 1:00 pm**

25th - 27th - **Christmas & Maintenance - CLOSED**

Local Artists in the Library

Jan Story will display Art Quilts and Fiber Arts in December.

Trust Management Grant

Thanks to a generous grant from Trust Management LLC, the library recently added four new computers and a Color LaserJet Printer. Two computers replaced 14 year old Gates public internet computers and two computers were added to the Resource Room enabling the public to take classes online, work on resumes, homework assignments, and the choice to print in color @.75 per page, or black and white @.10 per page.

"Yes Virginia, there is a Santa Claus."

- The (New York) Sun 9.21.1897

OREGON CULTURAL TRUST

When making end of the year philanthropic donations, please remember the Oregon Cultural Trust. A donation to any of its list of affiliates (Dallas Public Library is one) qualifies for a tax deduction. An equal amount donated to the Oregon Cultural Trust is a tax credit. A win-win! Donors to the Trust are eligible for a 100% Oregon income tax credit for contributions of up to \$500 for individuals, or \$1,000 for couples filing jointly. To motivate Oregonians to increase direct giving to cultural groups, Trust donors must also make matching gifts to one or more of nearly 1,300 cultural nonprofits in order to qualify for the credit. Since its inception in December 2001, over 21,000 donors have contributed nearly \$25 million to the Trust. Look for a list of cultural nonprofits at www.culturaltrust.org/ or <http://oregonculturefieldguide.org/>

FOOD 4 FINE\$

Dallas Public Library - Dec 9 – 14

Overdue Books? Growing Fines? You may pay it off with food! Support your library as we collect food for our local Dallas Food Bank. For each item of food that you bring to the library, your fines will be reduced by \$1.00. All items must have original labels, a future expiration date, and be in good condition.



Read To The Dogs

These lovable dogs are a hit with our patrons young and old. Call 503.623.2633 to make an appointment for your child to read to one of these wonderful dogs.

WINTERFEST



**Friday
Dec 6th**

All events
located downtown
surrounding the Courthouse Lawn

-  **4:15pm – 6:00pm**
 - Holiday Movie, "Arthur Christmas", at the Fox Theatre.
 - Admission: canned food donation (preferably peanut butter and or jelly)
 - For more information; Call 503.623.9346 or Visit: www.dallasfox.net
-  **5pm-8pm**
 - Cocoa served & donated by Dallas Church
 - Cookies donated by Papa Murphy's Pizza & baked by Capricorn Catering
 - Shop Vendors on the Lawn
-  **5:30pm-6:15pm**
 - Dallas High School Band Students Perform
 - Catch the holiday spirit with caroling!
-  **6:30pm**
 - Santa Arrives & Lights Tree
 - Santa's Entourage is the Dallas Volunteer Fire Department and the DOGGS (Dallas Old Guys & Gals Motorcycle Club)
- 6:45pm – 8:00pm**
 - Santa stays to visit with every child! Bring your camera!

Hosted by:



503-623-2564 www.dallasoregon.org/winterfest

The Dallas Area Chamber of Commerce is excited to host Winterfest 2013, on Friday, December 6 with events starting at 5:00 p.m. Join us on the Polk County Courthouse Lawn in the Downtown Square as we celebrate the holiday season!

Sip some cocoa or apple cider and nibble on some cookies while eagerly awaiting Santa's arrival. Enjoy musical performances and caroling while getting some Christmas shopping done. Several vendors will be on the lawn and downtown businesses will have specials too. Once Santa arrives to light the tree (about 6:30 p.m.) he'll stay to visit with each and every child and give them a candy cane.

We welcome your support of this event through sponsorship and the opportunity to be a vendor. Volunteers are also needed with everything from setup starting at 10:00 a.m. to cleanup that begins at 8:00 p.m. The more the merrier and the lighter the workload for everyone.

For more information or to participate, please contact Chelsea at the Chamber office at chelsea@dallasoregon.org or 503.623.2564.



COTTONWOODS

Cottonwoods on the Allgood Street side of the Dallas City Park will be coming down this winter to help keep pedestrians safe. Seven cottonwoods will be removed to prevent any falling limbs or potential safety hazards. Traffic and parking will be prohibited during the removal. Walking trails will also be restricted for safety.

Work will take place December 10-13 for cut and clean up. Eddy Logging will be taking the cut trees to Willamina to the mill. The stumps will be removed the following week.

If you have any questions please call the Parks Department at 503.831.3502.



HOLIDAY DECORATING SAFETY

Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together. But that also means a greater risk for fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.

HOLIDAY DECORATING

- Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Connect no more than three strands of mini light sets and a maximum of 50 bulbs for screw-in bulbs. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of LED strands to connect.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Keep decorations away from windows and doors.

HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING

- Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.
- Ask smokers to smoke outside. Remind smokers to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.
- Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.

BEFORE HEADING OUT OR TO BED

Blow out lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed. Turn off all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.

FACTS

Two of every five home decoration fires are started by candles.

Nearly half of holiday decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.



UPCOMING CITY EVENTS

- Infant/Toddler Storytime at Dallas Public Library
Tuesdays at 11:15 a.m.
- Preschool Storytime at Dallas Public Library
Thursdays at 11:15 a.m.
- Dallas City Council Workshop
Dec 2, 2013, at 5:30 p.m.
- Dallas City Council Meeting
Dec 2, 2013, at 7:00 p.m.
- Urban Renewal District Advisory Committee meeting
Dec 3, 2013, at 5:30 p.m.
- Planning Commission Meeting
Dec 10, 2013, at 7:00 p.m.
- Citizen Charter Revision Meeting
Dec 11, 2013, at 4:30 p.m.
- **Christmas Eve - City Hall Closed at Noon**
Dec 24, 2013
- **Christmas - City Hall Closed**
Dec 25, 2013
- **New Years Day - City Hall Closed**
Jan 1, 2014
- Dallas City Council Workshop
Jan 6, 2014, at 7:00 p.m.
- Dallas City Council Meeting
Jan 6, 2014, at 7:00 p.m.
- Urban Renewal District Advisory Committee meeting
Jan 7, 2014, at 5:30 p.m.
- Citizen Charter Revision Committee Meeting
Jan 8, 2014, at 4:30 p.m.
- Planning Commission Meeting
Jan 14, 2014, at 7:00 p.m.
- Economic Development Committee
Jan 16, 2014, at 12:00 p.m.
- **Martin Luther King - City Hall Closed**
Jan 20, 2014
- Dallas City Council Meeting - Tuesday
Jan 21, 2014, at 7:00 p.m.
- Admin / Building & Grounds Committee Meetings
Jan 27, 2014, at 5:00 p.m.

Meeting dates and times are subject to change.

Please check our website at www.dallasor.gov for updates, cancellations, and additional events.

REPORTING STREET LIGHT PROBLEMS

Have you noticed your street light out? Maybe there's one that cycles off and on. Whatever the issue, it's easy to report the problem and get it fixed! All you need to do is call Public Works at 503.831.3562 and let them know 1) where the street light is (the address, cross street, and/or pole number) and 2) what the concern is. We'll take the information and let Pacific Power know so they can schedule to fix it. Depending on crew availability, the repairs are often done within as little as two weeks.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you would like to subscribe to the e-newsletter, please call the City Manager's office at 503.831.3502 or email jeremy.teal@dallasor.gov. You can also visit our website at <http://www.dallasor.gov/notify> and sign up to receive notifications about various events in the City.

For up to the minute information on City events, please visit our web page at <http://www.dallasor.gov> and scroll down to the "News and Announcements" section. We also post all meetings and special Library and Aquatic Center activities on the Calendar section of the web page.

If you have questions about anything in this e-newsletter, please contact the City Manager's office at 503.831.3502. We welcome your ideas and comments.

VOLUNTEERS

The City welcomes volunteers of all ages and skill levels. There are many different tasks available within several departments with the City and it's a great way to give back to your community. For more information and to download a volunteer application form, visit our website at <http://www.dallasor.gov/volunteer>.

