



CITY OF DALLAS

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The Dallas Digest

The Mayor's Space

Mayor Brian Dalton



Giant Sequoias (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*) are the largest trees on earth and Dallas has a passel of them. We even have a street named after them, Southwest Sequoia Lane, and they can be found in yards, parks, open spaces and along streets all over town.

There is only one native stand Sequoias in the entire world which is found in the Sierra Nevada mountain range in California. Only about 80,000 of these big guys are left in the wild and their number is decreasing over time due to fire, climate change and so on.

Fortunately, Sequoias seem to thrive here in Dallas. I have one in my yard which is over five feet in diameter. If I wait around long enough, say another 1,000 years, my yard tree could well grow to 20 feet in diameter and to the height of a 26-story building. There are probably hundreds of its kin around town, so tree-wise, we will surely be earning our title as Tree City USA over the next few centuries.

If you don't know these things, look first on the horizon for tall, well-shaped coniferous trees that resemble enlarged upside-down ice cream cones. To see some closer up, I suggest you first swing by the late Judy Ward's pet tree in the front yard of the 200 block of SW Birch Street. For others, visit the 200 block of SE Academy Street, the entrance to Dallas Mobile Home Village, the Methodist Church yard, the City Park and various other places.

One of the nice things about Sequoias is that they capture and sequester more carbon than any other species of trees - a big one captures more planet-ruining carbon dioxide than 250 normal trees. So, we can battle climate change by planting Giant Sequoias all over town, though I would advise not real close to anything important like your house. If you want one to plant of your very own, see me.

For my loyal readers, this is my last column. Be well and, against stiff odds, try to maintain your sense of humor.

Walnut Ave - Beautified!



Cruise around the round-about on Walnut Ave. and you'll notice that it's been beautifully beautified! The City Parks crew ensured that the island had functioning irrigation. Then, with the help of the Street crew, they planted grasses and colorful maples. Continue east on Walnut and you'll see additional tree plantings on either side of the road. These are replacements for the trees that were damaged in the ice storm two winters ago.

Public Sandbag Station

Need sandbags? We have you covered! Just bring a shovel to the Dallas City Park entrance of Brandvold Drive off Levens street, in the basketball courts parking lot.



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Winter Reading



December 27, 2022 - February 17th 2023