



Friends of the Preston Ridge Trail

A non-profit corporation based in Dallas, Texas

[NEWSLETTER EMAIL]

Sunday, September 04, 2005

Friends of Preston Ridge Newsletter (#6)

Dear Members, HOA Leaders, and Neighbors --

With Labor Day Weekend bringing a close to the summer, we wanted to share quick updates on several exciting things happening this Fall with the Preston Ridge Trail. We hope you'll read this electronic newsletter and forward it on to others who use the Trail and/or are interested in the work of the Friends of the Preston Ridge Trail, the non-profit community organization dedicated to improving the Trail. You can also find out more about the Trail and the Friends at our website (www.prestonridgetrail.org) or our free InfoLine 972-770-0436.

Annual Meeting Scheduled for 9/17

The community is invited to the Friends Annual Meeting set for Saturday, September 17, at 10am in Meeting Room A of the Campbell Green Rec Center. This meeting is required by our By-Laws and the primary objective is electing officers, which will be recommended by the Nominating Committee. No other major business or updates are on the agenda. To submit nominees to the Committee, please contact Pat Altschuler, Chair, at alt78711@sbcglobal.net. For more information about the role of the officers, please contact Cori Pratt, President of the Friends, at coripratt57@yahoo.com.

Planting Set to Begin in Coming Weeks

Hundreds of trees and shrubs will be planted along the Trail later this Fall as result of efforts by the Friends, the City of Dallas' Parks & Rec Department, and significant volunteer support from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Dallas 4th Ward, located at Meandering Way/Beltline, on the Trail's southern end).

There is always a need for individuals and groups to volunteer with planting and watering along the Trail. We welcome people who have only an hour or two or large groups who can take on much larger projects. Please contact Rod Scales, Friends VP/Beautification & Landscaping, for information about the location of this first planting and/or to learn about how you or your group can help.



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Fundraising Campaign Taking Shape

Later this Fall, the Friends will kickoff a Capital Campaign to raise money to help purchase the many Trail amenities that the public funds will not be able to cover. HOAs, residents, area businesses, and foundations will be solicited to make donations of all sizes -- from under \$100 to buy trees, to thousands of dollars to help build rest areas along the Trail. The Friends is an official IRS 501(c)3 tax exempt organization and all donations are tax deductible.

The Friends is pleased that two people who live near the Trail have accepted key roles. Sonia Brown, who has extensive experience in non-profit fundraising and management, has agreed to volunteer and handle fundraising among Foundations and Corporations. Lynda McCluer, who has considerable involvement in various community activities, has agreed to head an effort to raise funds (and in-kind contributions) from area businesses.

We have two positions still open -- leading the fundraising with individuals and with HOAs. If you are interested, please contact Rodney Schlosser, Friends VP/Community, for more information, at rschlosser@asurion.com.

Planning To Begin Soon For Ground Breaking

An important community event will soon move into planning for early 2006 when the construction will begin to install benches, signage, etc. along the existing Trail, and break ground for Phase II. This is the expansion which extends the Trail north into Collin County by running along the greenbelt north of McCallum to the Bush Tollway. The ground breaking will be the formal conclusion to months of work developing the Trail Master Plan and will be scheduled once the bidding and contracting has been completed for the improvements and expansion of Trail.

If you are interested in helping plan this exciting event, please leave your name and number on the Friends InfoLine: 972-770-0436.

Thank you for your continued interest and support.

On behalf of the Board of the Friends,

Rodney Schlosser
VP/Community Relations

FRIENDS OF THE PRESTON RIDGE TRAIL INC.

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