# Andy Sommerman Dallas County Commissioner District 2 Newsletter 

April 2023


Commissioner Sommerman attended the Grand Opening of the newest clinic in Dallas County in April.
The Richardson Branch Immunization Clinic is located at 1411 W. Beltline Rd in Richardson and will offer immunizations for children and adults. This Clinic will provide expanded access to immunization services to residents in Northern Dallas County, including those who are uninsured or underinsured.

The Richardson Branch Immunization Clinic's hours are Monday - Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Walk-ins are accepted, but appointments are preferred. To schedule an appointment, call (214) 358-0926.

Earth Day is an annual event that takes place on April 22nd, with the aim of promoting environmental awareness and encouraging action towards the protection of the planet. It was first celebrated in the United States in 1970, and is now observed in 193 countries around the world.
Commissioner Sommerman presented a Resolution in the Commissioners Court to recognize Earth Day and the great work of the Dallas Sierra Club to advance the Environmental Justice movement in Dallas County.


Have Great News in District 2 to add to the newsletter? Would you like Commissioner Sommerman to attend your next neighborhood meeting? Contact us at District2Office@dallascounty.org

## INVOCATION

Commissioner Sommerman was honored to invite guests to Commissioners Court to give the Invocation before the meetings this month. We
appreciate Pastor Shea Sumlin, Pastor Chad Connell and Rabbi Nancy Kasten for taking the time to attend the Commissioners Court meeting and share their prayers with those present.

## April 4, 2023 - Pastor Chad Connell, Northway Church

Triune God over all things, will you join us today, will you fill this building and this courtroom? Father, will you encourage and push our hearts towards justice and duty? I ask Father that you would guide these men and woman of power to discern with wisdom, that you would bridle and control their speech, and that you would give clarity for today's agenda. Holy Spirit will you embolden these commissioners to set correct policies, to vote in unity with your desires and will, and will you go before us in today's events? Jesus, thank you for the freedom we find in you, you alone are where salvation is found. Thank you for the favor you have shown us as your children, for the country, state, and county we live in. Jesus you are before all things and you hold all things together, you set the foundations of the world together. I plead and ask for unity today. The decisions made in this room affect millions of people. Will you remind us of that now as we prepare for court, let us see their faces, let us hear their voices, and remind us of the love you have for us individually.
For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that One has died for all, therefore all have died; and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.
Blessings over this courtroom, Blessings over these
commissioners and judge, Blessing over this great city, all of its districts, and all of its people.
I pray all these things in the mighty name of Jesus, our Lord, Amen.

## INVOCATION

## April 18, 2023 - Rabbi Nancy Kasten, Faith Commons

The prophet Isaiah told us what God desires: To unlock the fetters of wickedness and untie the cords of lawlessness. To let the oppressed go free. To break off every yoke, share our bread with the hungry, and take the wretched poor into our home. When we see the naked, give clothing. And do not ignore our own kin. And Isaiah continued with the outcome we can hope for. If we banish the yoke from our midst, the menacing hand, the evil speech...if we offer compassion to the hungry and satisfy the famished creature, then our light shall shine in the darkness.
It was the great 20th century theologian Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel who warned us not to view prayer, in particular public prayer, as a discrete activity. As Rabbi Heschel put it, prayer as an episode, as a cursory incident, will not establish a home in the land of oblivion. Prayer must pervade as a climate of living and all our acts must be carried out as variations on the theme of prayer.
The decisions you make today as County Commissioners will impact the well-being of God's beloved creation. The problems we and our neighbors face and the suffering we experience is not what God desires. But we humans are interfering with the manifestation of God's mercy and power in this world. God is looking to us--looking to you--for a place to reside. God is in search of a home in your souls and in your deeds. God is waiting for you to bring some light and do what you can to diminish the terrible darkness that threatens to overwhelm us. Holy One of blessing, we ask you to fill our County Judge and Commissioners with wisdom, understanding, patience, discernment, and knowledge. Grant them favor and strengthen their faith. Draw them to you and cause them to know and fulfill your purposes. Impart your wisdom to them as they struggle to hold on to what is true and reject what is false. And keep their motives pure. We ask you to make their hearts and minds open to the myriad manifestations of your presence in their lives so that each decision they make and each task they undertake is experienced as a prayer, a tangible expression of your love and compassion for all of us. We thank you God for bringing these particular leaders together at this particular time. May this day in court be recognized for promoting peace, generosity of spirit, and an abiding commitment to justice. Amen.


