

HYDE • PARK

JUNE 2015

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Letter from the President

The official start of summer



Dear Hyde Park Neighbors,

The official calendar start of summer is June 21.

Happy summertime!

I want to thank all of those who have made the time and effort to join the civic association as members. Your annual \$30 donation - from all 182 of you - helps fund this newsletter, delivered to over 1,500 households. If you haven't joined, please consider doing so. Visit hydeparkhouston.org or see the form inside this newsletter.

To stay closely connected to neighborhood activities, consider joining our **Facebook** page. It's a great way to meet neighbors and further our sense of community.

A few new volunteers are sought to fill recently vacated roles. Find details on page 6. We're an entirely volunteer-run organization, so anyone with a little free time can make a difference.

The annual **Gay Pride Parade** and festivities takes place on Saturday, June 27. For the first time in history, the event will take place downtown, instead of along our Westheimer perimeter. I know some of us will miss hosting this event locally, while

others welcome the location change. Find out more at pride-houston.org.

Looking ahead, our annual **Volunteer Reception** will take place on the evening of Tuesday, July 7 at Rudyard's. All block captains, citizen patrollers, newsletter bundlers, newsletter contributors, and anyone else who has donated time to Hyde Park are invited to attend and bring a guest. The theme this year is "Hats Off to Hyde Park," honoring volunteers who give back to our neighborhood. Attendees are encouraged to get creative and have fun by wearing a hat of their choosing to the event. This event takes the place of our regularly scheduled monthly meeting.

All residents and their guests are invited to join us on Monday, June 1 for our monthly meeting at Rudz. A guest speaker from **BikeHouston** will discuss their mission to create streets that are safe and accessible for bicyclists to increase the quality of life of all Houstonians. BikeHouston works to accomplish its mission through advocacy and community education. I hope to see you at the meeting.

Sincerely,
Macy Bodenhamer

NON-EMERGENCY CONTACTS

HPD Non-Emergency (713) 884-3131

24/7 Montrose Management
District Security Patrol (832) 370-9191
Dial 311 for City Helpline

UPCOMING EVENTS

General Meetings

JUNE 1, 6:30pm @ Rudz

Guest Speaker Mary Blitzler, Manager of Community and Government Relations
BikeHouston

JULY, no general meeting

AUGUST 3, guest speaker TBD

Other Events

JUNE 3, 5:30pm @ L'Olivier Crimestoppers event hosted by Avondale Civic Association

JUNE 30, 6:30pm @ Rudz HPCA Volunteer Reception

BOARD CONTACTS

PRESIDENT - Macy Bodenhamer
president@hydeparkhouston.org

VICE PRESIDENT - Tammi Wallace
vicepresident@hydeparkhouston.org

SECRETARY - Travis Marshall
secretary@hydeparkhouston.org

TREASURER - Rex Richardson
treasurer@hydeparkhouston.org

PAST PRESIDENT - George Sroka
pastpresident@hydeparkhouston.org

DEED RESTRICTIONS - Diana Mobley
deedrestrictions@hydeparkhouston.org

MEMBERSHIP and DIRECTOR AT-LARGE - Sandie Zilker
membership@hydeparkhouston.org

CITIZEN PATROL - Rex Richardson
citizenpatrol@hydeparkhouston.org

NEWSLETTER - Adrienne Wong
newsletter@hydeparkhouston.org

ADVERTISING - Carlos Fernandez
advertising@hydeparkhouston.org

LAMAR PARK
Position Open
lamarpark@hydeparkhouston.org

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR
Roy Brooks
volunteer@hydeparkhouston.org

BLOCK CAPTAINS

Bomar

Greg Jeu & Jim Hurst 281-541-6756

California / Westheimer

Cecilia Kammer 832-788-1586

Commonwealth

Liz Hudson & Carol Brownstein

713-527-9852

Mark McCreary

Fairview

Irene Dahlgren 713-299-5190

Hyde Park / Hyde Park Apts.

Linda Carter 713-524-2952

Alex Aranda 713-533-9474

Hyde Park Crescent

Susan Ellis 713-528-8289

Carlos Fernandez 713-520-7017

Hyde Park Townhomes

Daniel Posada 713-454-7834

Indiana / Yupon

Alice McCarthy 713-521-5807

Jackson

Brandon Bartee 832-866-1426

Maryland

Cathy Hanchett 713.542.4921

Michigan

Tom Whitworth 713-523-8035

Missouri

Tammi Wallace 713-301-2266

Montrose/Waugh

Christina Ptasinski 832-516-9811

Peden

Lori Corwin 832-582-6520

Vermont

Sharon Lord 713-522-9427

Welch

Scott and Lina Rigrod 713-528-2791

Cliff Jones 713-524-3055

West Drew

Mike McKann 713-526-6777

West Gray / Hazel

Roy Brooks 832-691-6587

Willard

Delia Isabel Cuellar 832 819-0813

Yoakum/Van Buren

Macy Bodenhamer 713-201-5810

**Block captains: Notify
vicepresident@hydeparkhouston.org
of any changes in contact information.**

HPCA May 2015 Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Travis Marshall, Secretary

The May 4 monthly Hyde Park Civic Association (HPCA) meeting was called to order at approximately 6:40 p.m. by **President Macy Bodenhamer** with 35 guests present. The meeting started with **guest speaker Brian Crimmins'** presentation on Plan Houston, an all-encompassing plan that states the City's vision, goals, and strategies for accomplishing these goals. A summary of the presentation can be found in this newsletter (p.3).

After the presentation, meeting attendees were asked to introduce themselves by sharing their civic association role and the street they live on. A sign-in sheet was passed around in order to document those in attendance.

Roy Brooks was introduced as HPCA's **Volunteer Coordinator**. Roy announced that a volunteer is needed for the Deed Restrictions Committee. The new Deed Restrictions Committee member will be responsible for working with other members in communicating with the city and developers as well as identifying any potential issues the community may face. It was also announced that a new Lamar Park Committee Chair or Co-Chairs are sought to fill the recently vacated role. The role facilitates the day-to-day operations of the park by communicating with contractors in order to maintain park upkeep and wit the City's Parks Department. If you are interested in these positions, please contact **Roy Brooks** via his email volunteer@hydeparkhouston.org.

The Citizens on Patrol update was given. Hyde Park has about 36 registered and trained patrollers. **Alice McCarthy** led the pack this month as the most prolific

patroller. Those interested in serving as a patroller should contact volunteer@hydeparkhouston.org.

Membership Chair and Board Director-at-Large Sandie Zilker announced membership numbers. She stated that the current membership is the largest it has been in recent history at 182 members. Keep inviting neighbors to join and attend the monthly meetings. Those interested can join on the civic association's website at www.hydeparkhouston.org.

The Deed Restrictions Committee shared that development still seems to be stable.

Committee Chair Diana Mobley reported that there may be an eight-story condominiums going in on California St., but no plans are finalized. A short update on the Butler Brothers property on Fairview and Commonwealth was also provided, reporting that some of the plans were rejected by the city and still needed to be finalized. It was also stated that the Butler Brothers are not the owners of the property according to online resources. The Deed Restrictions Committee is still waiting for responses from developers concerning destruction of trees.

General announcements regarding TIRZ updates (more meetings to come), graffiti (not endorsed and discouraged by HPCA), Hyde Park's Wikipedia page, the recent City of Houston's sidewalk work, and HPD's citywide PIP meeting were all shared with meeting attendees.

Next month, HPCA will hold its meeting on June 2 at Rudyard's and host a speaker from BikeHouston.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

May Association Meeting Guest Speaker

The City of Houston introduces *Plan Houston*

Chief of Staff Brian Crimmins, of the City's Planning and Development Department, visited last month's meeting educating us on *Plan Houston*, a cross departmental plan to hopefully allow Houston to coordinate efforts and resources more effectively.

As the mayor is approaching the end of her term, she directed the Planning and Development Department to explore concepts that will increase collaboration, increase continuity between changes in City leadership, transition the City from a reactive stance to a proactive one, and increase public engagement.

The vision statement for *Plan Houston* is: Houston offers opportunity for all and celebrates its diversity of people, economy, culture, and places. Houston promotes healthy and resilient communities through smart civic investments, dynamic partnerships, education, and innovation. Houston is the place where anyone can prosper and feel at home. To find out more about the specifics of the plan, visit planhouston.org. Residents are encouraged to share their input through the site. Or you can reach Brian directly at Brian.Crimmins@houstontx.gov

Submitted by Travis Marshall

2015 MEETING, TRASH PICKUP AND RECYCLING SCHEDULE

All residents are welcomed to monthly meetings (@ **6:30-7:45 p.m., 2nd floor Rudyard's Pub on Waugh**). Featured guest speakers will be announced in advance. Come early to order dinner or a beverage and enjoy during the meeting. Meetings are always held on the 1st Monday of each month, with exceptions noted below.

Monday, June 1

Tuesday, June 30 - Volunteer Reception

Monday, July 6 - No meeting

Monday, August 3

Tuesday, September 8

(Monday 7th is Labor Day)

Tuesday, October 6 - National Night Out in Lamar Park

Monday, November 2

December - No meeting, Holiday Party TBA

TRASH/RECYCLING:

TRASH PICK-UP: MONDAYS

SINGLE STREAM: Jun. 8, 22, Jul. 6, 20

TREE WASTE: Jul. 1

HEAVY/JUNK: Jun. 3, Aug. 5

NEWSLETTER:

Please submit all material for July consideration by June 18th to newsletter@hydeparkhouston.org

CITIZENS ON PATROL REPORT FOR APRIL 2015

Submitted by Rex Richardson

Hours patrolled by car = 29

Hours patrolled on foot = 95

Suspicious incidents reported = none for April

Thanks to all the patrollers who kept an eye out last month for the safety of our neighbors and community.



Hats Off to Hyde Park

**Tuesday, June 30
6:30 PM at
Rudyard's**

Our annual "Thank You" to the volunteers who make our civic association possible.

All block captains, citizen patrolers, board members and their significant others are invited to enjoy free food and fun.

[You're also invited to wear fun, funky hats to this shindig.]

HURRICANE SEASON UNDERWAY: PREPARE NOW

June 1 marks the official beginning of hurricane season, which runs through November 1.

Source: American Red Cross

Preparation is the best protection against the dangers of a hurricane.

What should I do?

- Listen to a NOAA Weather Radio for critical information from the National Weather Service (NWS).
- Check your disaster supplies and replace or restock as needed.
- Bring in anything that can be picked up by the wind (bicycles, lawn furniture).
- Close windows, doors and hurricane shutters. If you do not have hurricane shutters, close and board up all windows and doors with plywood.
- Turn the refrigerator and freezer to the coldest setting and keep them closed as much as possible so that food will last longer if the power goes out.
- Turn off propane tanks and unplug small appliances.
- Fill your car's gas tank.
- Talk with members of your household and create an evacuation plan. Planning and practicing your evacuation plan minimizes confusion and fear during the event.
- Learn about your community's hurricane response plan. Plan routes to local shelters, register family members with special medical needs as required and make plans for your pets to be cared for.
- Evacuate if advised by authorities. Be careful to avoid flooded roads and washed out bridges.
- Because standard homeowners insurance doesn't cover flooding, it's important to have protection from the floods associated with hurricanes,

tropical storms, heavy rains and other conditions that impact the U.S. For more information on flood insurance, please visit the National Flood Insurance Program Web site at www.FloodSmart.gov.

What supplies do I need?

- Water—at least a 3-day supply; one gallon per person per day
- Food—at least a 3-day supply of non-perishable, easy-to-prepare food
- Flashlight
- Battery-powered or hand-crank radio (NOAA Weather Radio, if possible)
- Extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Medications (7-day supply) and medical items (hearing aids with extra batteries, glasses, contact lenses, syringes, cane)
- Multi-purpose tool
- Sanitation and personal hygiene items
- Copies of personal documents (medication list and pertinent medical information, proof of address, deed/lease to home, passports, birth certificates, insurance policies)
- Cell phone with chargers
- Family and emergency contact information
- Extra cash
- Emergency blanket
- Map(s) of the area
- Baby supplies (bottles, formula, baby food, diapers)
- Pet supplies (collar, leash, ID, food, carrier, bowl)

- Tools/supplies for securing your home
- Extra set of car keys and house keys
- Extra clothing, hat and sturdy shoes
- Rain gear
- Insect repellent and sunscreen
- Camera for photos of damage

What do I do after a hurricane?

- Continue listening to a NOAA Weather Radio or the local news for the latest updates.
- Stay alert for extended rainfall and subsequent flooding even after the hurricane or tropical storm has ended.
- If you evacuated, return home only when officials say it is safe.
- Drive only if necessary and avoid flooded roads and washed-out bridges.
- Keep away from loose or dangling power lines and report them immediately to the power company.
- Stay out of any building that has water around it.
- Inspect your home for damage. Take pictures of damage, both of the building and its contents, for insurance purposes.
- Use flashlights in the dark. Do NOT use candles.
- Avoid drinking or preparing food with tap water until you are sure it's not contaminated.
- Check refrigerated food for spoilage. If in doubt, throw it out.
- Wear protective clothing and be cautious when cleaning up to avoid injury.
- Watch animals closely and keep them under your direct control.
- Use the telephone only for emergency calls.

Know the Difference

Hurricane Watch—Hurricane conditions are a threat within 48 hours. Review your hurricane plans, keep informed and be ready to act if a warning is issued.

Hurricane Warning—Hurricane conditions are expected within 36 hours. Complete your storm preparations and leave the area if directed to do so by authorities.

Our Neighborhood Boundaries



Ever wondered exactly what territory makes up Hyde Park? See the map above for our boundaries.

The northern-most upper section was annexed into our area in the 1990s to include Peden, Hazel and West Gray.

There are about 1,500 households in our neighborhood, compared to Cherryhurst on our west side, which has only 300 households.

Only about 10% of residents are civic association members. If you're not one of them, please consider joining for just \$30/year. And if you haven't renewed your membership for 2015, please so do. Use the form above or just go to our website to pay through PayPal. Memberships fund the cost of printing this newsletter, help maintain Lamar Park and more.

We need your support and welcome your involvement!

Hyde Park Civic Association Annual Membership

Individual - \$30

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New or Renewal
(circle one)

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Hyde Park Seeks to Fill Crucial Volunteer Roles

This past month has been an exciting one in assessing the volunteer needs of our civic association and seeing all the possibilities available.

We definitely need folks to help make our neighborhood an even better place to call home! Feel free to e-mail me at volunteer@hydepark.org to get a fuller idea of the openings we currently have or to share ideas.

The following are positions we are in deep need of filling:

Deed Restrictions Committee Member / Board Director:

This position will assist the Deed Restrictions Chair in communicating with developers and homeowners regarding deed restrictions. Additionally, this vacancy involves identifying and escalating potential deed infractions. The committee meets periodically. This position also serves as a voting HPCA board member, requiring attendance at monthly association meetings and board meetings.

Lamar Park Chair or Co-Chairs:

Do you walk by Lamar Park regularly? Live nearby? Concerned about green spaces in our neighborhood? This is the perfect opportunity to have an impact!

This position is **vitaly** needed to coordinate the maintenance and care of Lamar Park with vendors, as well as with the city's Parks Board and Parks and Recreation Dept. The candidates for these positions will be eased into their roles by myself and Vice President Tammi Wallace. Time commitment is three to four hours a month.

Dolphin Fountain Fundraising Committee:

We are looking for volunteers with experience in fundraising to help secure donations for the restoration of the oldest continuously-running fountain in the city—the Dolphin Fountain at Lamar Park.

If you have professional experience in fundraising/crowd-funding/grant-writing, we could benefit tremendously from your input and assistance to reach our preservation goals. We've raised over \$20k, but we need that extra push to help us get closer.

Several other opportunities are forthcoming - we will especially need help for our annual National Night Out in October. If you're interested in these or any other possible positions, please email me at the above address. I'll be glad to meet with you and discuss how you can help make Hyde Park not just your neighborhood, but your community.

Submitted by Roy Brooks, volunteer coordinator

NEIGHBOR OF THE MONTH:

Alice McCarthy

Submitted by Travis Marshall, Secretary

Neighbor of the Month: Alice McCarthy of W. Drew St. is a Hyde Park linchpin, living in our community since 1982. Alice currently is a writer of oral histories but has held a multitude of occupations from building contractor to ESL teacher to Director of Development and Community Relations at Rothko Chapel, all while being a faithful servant of our community. Being an avid walker of her bull terrier, Stella, if Alice could change one thing about our community it would be to upgrade our community's poor and, in some cases, nonexistent sidewalks. When not on the streets of Hyde Park, you may find Alice at the Downtown YMCA training for the annual Buffalo Bayou Regatta canoe race, which her and her sister recently finished first in the corporate category.

Alice loves the people of Hyde Park, having experienced many stories of the community pulling together around common goals. Alice is a big supporter of Hyde Park's local businesses such as Rudz, Hay Merchant, Underbelly, Al's Quick Stop, Niko-Niko's, Nidda Thai and Stars Cleaners. She also enjoys attending all kinds of theatrical performances, art openings, music events and human rights functions. She is particularly invested in Asians Against Domestic Abuse (AADA) and other organizations that help women and children. When Alice is not reading books such as *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr (which she highly recommends), she has her radio dial tuned to NPR. Alice is a great neighbor, and we are lucky to have her.

Be sure to meet her at the next HPCA meeting!

Recommend someone for Neighbor of the Month by emailing Travis Marshall at: secretary@hydeparkhouston.org

LEARN ABOUT BICYCLE SAFETY AND MORE ON JUNE 1



BIKEHOUSTON

At the June 1 Association meeting, Mary Blitzer of BikeHouston will present on the Houston Bike Plan, Houston's first bike plan in 20 years. Now is the time to share what you need to feel safer and happier riding your bike. Public meetings kick off on May 30th, find all the details at www.houstonbikeplan.org.

Mary will also provide safety tips on how to be a better and safer driver and bicyclist. Traffic crashes are preventable, there is no excuse for tragedies. BikeHouston is Houston's only bicycle advocacy organization. We have a goal of zero traffic fatalities, and are working to get there through better planning and roadway design, education, and enforcement of laws. Mary is the manager of government and community affairs for BikeHouston and is a daily bike commuter. www.bikehouston.org



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MAY 2015							JULY 2015						
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31													



June 2015

Business Solutions
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 GENERAL MEETING RUDYARD'S 6:30 PM	2 Full Moon	3 AVONDALE CIVIC ASSOC. CRIMESTOPPERS LOLIVIER 5:30 PM	4	5	6 D-Day
7	8	9 Last Quarter	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 New Moon	17	18	19	20
Flag Day 21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Father's Day First Day of Summer 28	29	30 HYDE PARK CIVIC ASSOC. VOLUNTEER RECEPTION RUDYARD'S 6:30 PM	First Quarter			