

vccahouston.org  
PO Box 130891  
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June  
2013

## Civic Association Newsletter

Issue No. 35

The Vermont Commons Civic Association Newsletter is published monthly, September through June

*Spring Clean Up*  
*May 18<sup>th</sup>*



### June Meeting Guest

#### City Council Member Stephen Costello

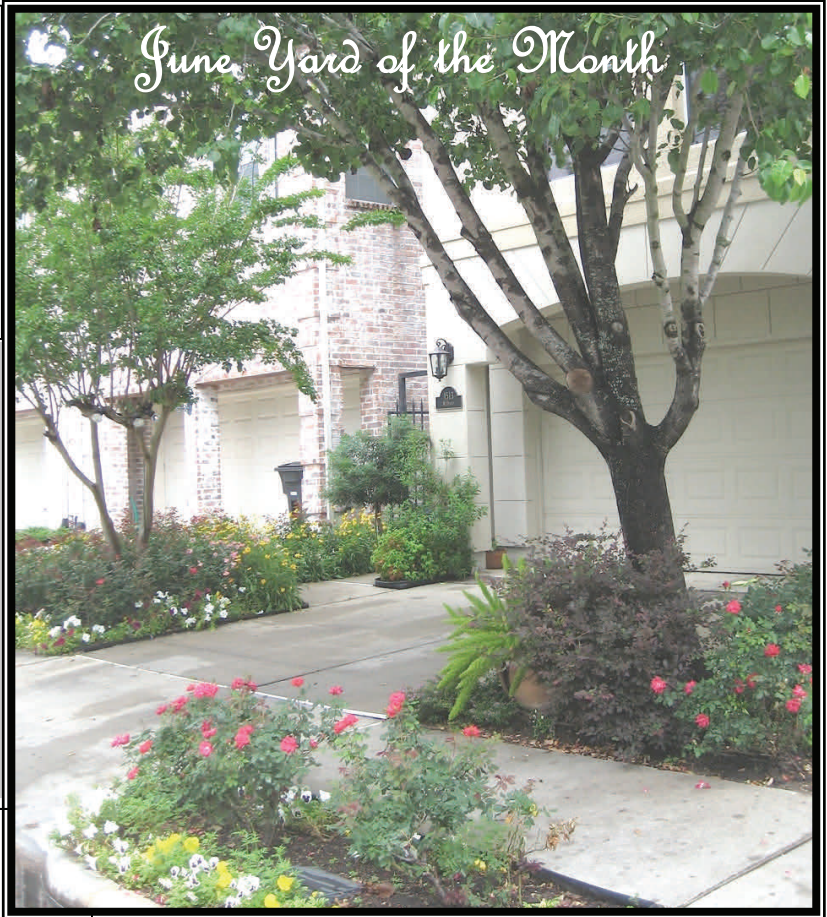
Our guest for the June 10th VCCA meeting will be City Council Member Stephen Costello. After VCCA business, Mr. Costello will take questions from the attendees. VCCA meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month (Sept. thru June), 7:00 p.m., at Kenneally's Irish Pub, 2111 S. Shepherd & Welch. Plan to attend the meeting, on Monday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, and socialize with your neighbors afterwards.

A big thanks to all of the volunteers who dedicated Saturday morning, May 18th, to cut, clip, and trim during the annual VCCA Spring Clean-Up. The group enjoyed lots of laughter and formed new friendships while making Vermont Commons streets and sidewalks so much more accessible. Additional thanks for Jeanette Hix for coordinating the event. The center photo shows just how much debris was cut and bagged. Thanks to Jack Blankenship and Mary Beth Kelly for hauling off the bagged trimmings in their truck. It was a very successful group effort.



### Yard of the Month- 1513 McDuffie

Erling and Reinetta Hansen have lived in their townhouse for five years. As you can see, they both enjoy gardening. To honor their Dutch heritage, they always have fresh cut flowers in their home. They use a variety of colorful flowers in their garden to make beautiful arrangements.



### Ahhhhh...Morning Coffee

Craving caffeine and good conversation? Then come meet your neighbors at the monthly Morning Coffee! The June event will be held at the home of Pam Lee, 1701 Driscoll, on June 25th at 10:00 a.m.

### Step Up and Volunteer !

It takes a ton of volunteers to keep Vermont Commons safe, attractive, and a great community to live in. Here are some of the activities volunteers participate in:

- Newsletter creation, folding, handling, and shipping.
- Yard of the month selection.
- Finding speakers for the monthly meeting.
- VCCA web page posting.
- Planning and carrying out activities and events.
- Meeting with City of Houston employees and city council members to ensure that VCCA is represented.
- Block Captain organization.
- Creating and sending out flyers for VCCA activities.
- Finding volunteers to host the monthly coffee social.
- Citizen Patrol coordinators, walkers, joggers, and observers.
- Graffiti removal activities.
- Financial organization and management.
- Monitoring neighborhood crime reports and police actions.

VCCA Officers and volunteers work behind the scenes planning activities and organizing efforts. Bring your ideas and talents to the next meeting to pitch in for your community. To volunteer, please contact Jeannette Hix ([hix@rmi.net](mailto:hix@rmi.net)).

### Thanks to Our VCCA Volunteers!

**Newsletter Folding Hosting:** Kit Muire

**Newsletter Folders:** Kit Muire, Pam Lee, Madeleine Schlemmer, Stephanie Taylor, Jeanette Hix, Laurel Adams, Vickie Burke, Vivian Wang, Adrianna Buckstein, Susan Wilson and Betsy Banks. Thanks to Susan Wilson for picking up the newsletters and mailing them at the downtown post office.

**VCCA Coffee:** Jane and Dick Schmitt for hosting the April Coffee. Robin Greene for hosting in May.

**Yard Signs:** Andy Tallin for designing and making the signs to distribute to all block captains.

**New Block Captain:** Anthony Simpson, Driscoll between Vermont and Welch.

**Kenneally's Irish Pub** for letting the VCCA have monthly meetings at the pub (and for having Guinness on draft!).

### VCCA Officers

**President:** Jeanette Hix [hix@rmi.net](mailto:hix@rmi.net)

**1<sup>st</sup> VP:** Betsy Banks [betsybanks1@gmail.com](mailto:betsybanks1@gmail.com)

**2<sup>nd</sup> VP:** Emmie Chang [emmie.chang+77019@gmail.com](mailto:emmie.chang+77019@gmail.com)

**Secretary:** Kit Muire [kit.77019@gmail.com](mailto:kit.77019@gmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Andy Tallin [atallin01@yahoo.com](mailto:atallin01@yahoo.com)

**Newsletter:** Michael Forlenza & Karen Kane  
[vcca.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:vcca.newsletter@gmail.com)



# Spring Picnic - May 18<sup>th</sup>



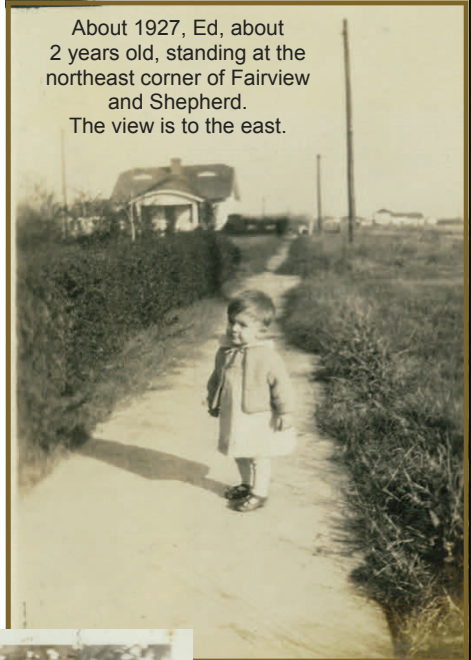
VCCA residents gathered in the beautiful and shady backyard of Andy Tallin and Maria Rodriguez for the Spring Picnic on May 18th. As excellent hosts, Andy manned the grill and Maria kept the event organized. A special thanks to Emmie Chang for buying all the groceries on behalf of the VCCA. Unused food was donated to a shelter for the homeless.

## Living History

Edward W. Quilter, perhaps the longest-term resident in the area, has lived in our neighborhood for more than 80 years.

Ed has shared some photographs and memories of growing up in this area when the pace of life was slower. Born in 1925, Ed has lived his entire life here except for three years in the Merchant Marines during WWII.

About 1927, Ed, about 2 years old, standing at the northeast corner of Fairview and Shepherd. The view is to the east.



First living at 2010 Indiana, Ed enjoyed an active childhood that included riding his horse (which was stabled across the street from his home) downtown to the Rice Hotel to have a coke.

**Join the VCCA.** VCCA Membership is open to all residents (owners and renters) in the area for just \$30 per year.  
Pay online at [vccahouston.org](http://vccahouston.org)

### Trash Talk

**Garbage & Yard Trimmings:** Mondays (Schedule B)

**Recycling:** Mondays: June 3th and 17th.

**Heavy Trash Collection:**

**Tree Waste:** 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday in Jul, Sep, and Nov.

**Junk Waste:** 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday in Jun, Aug, Oct, and

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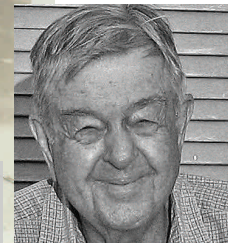


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About 1937, Ed in his scout uniform on Indiana between Brun and McDuffie. The view to the east.

Returning to the neighborhood after the war, Ed married the young Mary Bouvet in 1954 and moved into their home at 2005 Brun where he presently resides. The green house was built in 1935. Ed still tends his garden and yard and will share a story or two of a quieter time in our neighborhood.



**Edward Quilter**

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