vccahouston.org PO Box 130891 Houston, TX 77219-0891



June 2015

## CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



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# **VCCA Meeting** June 8th, 7 pm

The Monthly VCCA meeting will be on Monday, June 8th at 7:00 PM at Café Ginger, located at 1952 West Gray Street in the shopping center near the intersection with Driscoll. The speaker for the June meeting will be Officer Pate with the Houston Police

Department. Officer Pate is always an extremely welcome speaker as he keeps all of us abreast of what is happening in the police department and Cafe Ginger

our neighborhood.



### Thank You Volunteers

Thanks to all the volunteers who have helped VCCA be a successful, enjoyable and educational association. There are so many that it would take up the entire newsletter to mention all of you. Many of you take on multiple roles throughout the year. Vermont Commons is a much better place to live because of your participation. If you know one of the volunteers, be sure and stop and thank them for all their help.

## Spring Picnic — May 16th

The neighborhood picnic on May 16th was a great success. As you can see by the pictures, a large crowd from Vermont Commons, Park Civic, and Lewisdale came out for a break in the spring showers. Adults and children enjoyed the face painting and the balloon art. Thanks to the organiz-

ers: Carole Dodson, Marilyn Fehrenkamp, Carolynn Kevlin, Lillian Skogsberg, Kit Muire and Jeanette

> Hix. A special thanks to Jim and Sheila Armsworth for hosting the event in their great side yard.



- Elections of VCCA officers will be during the June meeting.
- There will be no July or August newsletters or meetings.
- September VCCA meeting will be Monday September 14th.



#### Home of Elizabeth & Mike McKenzie

The garden is Elizabeth's project where she has been working to create a Monarch butterfly habitat for over a year. She's hoping to encourage her VCCA neighbors to add a few nectar plants to help sustain the monarch population and their migration. The McKenzie's garden has been registered with the Monarch Waystation program. The Monarch watch program lists many plants to add to gardens-information can be found on their website at http://www.monarchwatch.org/ waystations. This is a fairly easy process and Elizabeth would be happy to help anyone interested.

#### VCCA COMMITTEES AND CHAIRS 2014 - 2015

Deed Restrictions: Andy Tallin atallin01@yahoo.com

Block Captains: Sharon McKinzie

Newsletter Editor: Michael Forlenza vcca.newsletter@gmail.com Newsletter Mailing: Jean Eagle Smith jeaglesmith@hotmail.com

Web Page: Carol Bjornstad carol.bjornstad@me.com

Nextdoor Coordinator: Karen Kane karen.db.kane@gmail.com Coffee Coordinator: Carolynn Kevlin <a href="mailto:carolynnk@sbcglobal.net">carolynnk@sbcglobal.net</a>

Yard of the Month: Lillian Skogsberg lillian skogsberg@earthlink.net

Graffiti Removal: Ann Ince <a href="mailto:crazyauntann@yahoo.com">crazyauntann@yahoo.com</a> Book Club: Carole Dodson <u>cardodson@sbcglobal.net</u>

Trap Neuter Release: Carolyn Levy <a href="mailto:houstoncatlover@gmail.com">houstoncatlover@gmail.com</a> Citizen's Patrol: Elizabeth & Michael McKenzie emckenzie045@gmail.com

#### Fly Your Flag - June 14th

In the United States, Flag Day is celebrated on June 14. It commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States, which happened on that day in 1777 by resolution of the Second Continental Congress. The United States Army also celebrates the Army's Birthday on this date; Congress adopted "the American continental army" after reaching a consensus position in the Committee of the Whole on June 14, 1775.



In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation that officially established June 14 as Flag Day; in August 1949, National Flag Day was established by an Act of Congress. Flag Day is not an official federal holiday; however, the President' may officially proclaim the observance. On June 14, 1937, Pennsylvania became the first U.S. state to celebrate Flag Day as a state holiday.

## Titizen Patrol Update

Elizabeth and Mike McKenzie. Coordinators

The volunteer members of the Citizens Patrol listed below drove 40 hours and walked 343 hours through our neighborhood in April. Thank you for looking out for your neighbors. Keep up the good work Citizen Patrol!

Sue Attoe Paula Holton Tim Attoe David Hover Karen Kane Barry Brandt Andriana Breidenstein Helen Mann Bob Costantini Elizabeth McKenzie Rob Fuller Michael McKenzie Cathryn Gabor Curtis Mooney

Maria Rodriguez Brenda Rojas **BR Simon** Jim Skogsberg Lillian Skogberg Andy Tallin

If you would like to become a volunteer for the Citizen's Patrol to help keep our neighborhood safe, please contact Elizabeth McKenzie at emckenzie045@gmail.com for more information.

## Coffee Break

Take a June coffee break with friends and neighbors.

When: Wednesday, June 10th, 10 am **Where:** 2123 Huldy Street with

Carole Dodson, our hostess The VCCA monthly coffee welcomes

residents from Vermont Commons and Park Civic. Come meet your neighbors, and we guarantee you'll make new friends.



You can help your hostess by letting us know if you are coming, this month by Friday, June 5 (not required, but much appreciated).

Carolynn Kevlin carolynnk@sbcglobal.net

#### **VCCA Officers 2014 - 2015**

Treasurer: Robin Greene <u>rbogreene9@gmail.com</u> President: Jeanette Hix <a href="mailto:hix@rmi.net">hix@rmi.net</a> 713-521-3337 281-723-3554

Vice President- Deed Restrictions: Andy Tallin atallin01@yahoo.com M: 713-594-9390

Secretary: Karen Kane karen.db.kane@gmail.com Newsletter: Michael Forlenza vcca.newsletter@gmail.com

### **Brun Street Party**



#### VCCA Federal Reserve Bank Tour



#### Houston 3-1-1

Many of us use the city of Houston 3-1-1 service request phone number for a variety of issues that may concern our neighborhood. Whether about a missed garbage pick up or reporting a leak from a fire hydrant, calling 3-1-1 may be able to help get us assistance or get our questions answered. Here are a just a few issues that someone might want to call 3-1-1\* about:

- Report low water pressure or a line out of water.
- Report a leaking fire hydrant, a street light that is out, or a pothole, or a malfunctioning traffic light.
- Report missed garbage or recycling pickup.
- Request dates for next garbage, recycling, and vard waste pickup.
- · Report a meter leak.
- Report a nuisance on a property.
- Report a dog running loose (note intersection)
- Report graffiti (note address or intersection).
- Request dead animal collection.
- Report repairs needed to be done in a city park or other facilities.

To check out a complete directory of services, please go to the website at <a href="https://www.houston311.org">www.houston311.org</a>. Some cell phone users or persons outside the Houston area may need to dial 713-837-0311.

## **Neighbors Helping Out**

Many have asked about how Monty has been doing since he was found in March. We wanted to catch y'all up on the latest on Monty, the cat who was found in the street and has been recovering in our neighborhood with his foster mom on Huldy ever since. Monty had surgery last month and now has the jawline of Rock Hudson. So handsome! His eyesight continues to be impaired and he may be only able to see light and pos-



sibly some shadows. He can still have a good bat at a wand toy and will hold on tight to a toy with catnip. Monty is happily working on eating on his own but is still on a feeding tube because the wire in his jaw won't be removed for a couple of more weeks. We are all looking forward to that day. He has remained a trooper throughout and wants nothing more than lots of affection and laptime and to purr like a motorboat. Monty and I played an adorable game of "footsies" the other day. I would press my finger into the pad of his outstretched paw and he would curl it in and pull my hand

in with it. Then he would relax but not letting go of my finger. Such a love! We are all very appreciative of everyone's well wishes and support. Please check out the beautiful blog at Friends for Life about Monty: <a href="http://www.adoptfriends4life.org/blog/view/montys-village">http://www.adoptfriends4life.org/blog/view/montys-village</a>

If the measure of a community is how it treats its weakest members than our little neighborhood is the top!



## The Wax Lab

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