

vccahouston.org

PO Box 130891
Houston, TX 77219-0891



November 2017

CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



Newsletter Published Monthly September thru June
Vermont Commons Civic Association
PO Box 130891, Houston, TX 77219
Issue No. 79

VCCA Monthly Happy Hour

VCCA monthly happy hours are the 2nd Monday, September through June, at Fuzzy's Taco Shop, 2015 W Gray St, Suite J, (right behind La Madeleine, east along Peden Street). Join us November 13th at 6:30pm.



From Preservation Houston:

Weingarten Realty, the owner of the River Oaks Shopping Center, has announced plans to replace a section of the Art Deco center with a 30-story residential tower. The proposal calls for the demolition of the east end of the retail building on the north side of West Gray between Driscoll and McDuffie; the building and its companion on the south side of West Gray were designed by Houston architect Raymond H. Brogniez and built in 1948.

Gerald Crump, a senior vice president at Weingarten, told the Chronicle's Nancy Sarnoff that the company may also redevelop other parts of the historic shopping center, which it has owned since 1971.

The River Oaks Shopping Center, including the building slated for partial demolition, is a City of Houston landmark. Landmark status requires that Weingarten's plans be reviewed by the city's preservation office before a demolition permit can be granted.

November VCCA: Combination Happy Hour & Speaker

Date: Monday, November 13th, 2017

Time: Happy Hour starts at 6:30pm, Speaker at 7:15pm

Location: Fuzzy's Taco Shop, 2015 W Gray St, Suite J, (right behind La Madeleine, east along Peden Street).

Speaker: John Anderson, Regional Director for Weingarten Realty

Mr. Anderson will speak at the November Happy Hour. He will discuss the 30 Story High Rise at West Gray and Driscoll that has a proposed ground breaking on March 2018. He will give a short presentation followed by question and answer period.

The Driscoll at River Oaks is a 30-story residential luxury high rise offering over 300 luxury living spaces for lease with views of Houston's skylines. Residents of the tower will have the rare opportunity to live within walking distance of excellent shops, restaurants, and a top-performing Kroger in River Oaks Shopping Center.

The tower will also be home to an estimated 10,000 square feet of ground floor retail. Tentatively, ground breaking is scheduled for 2018 with an estimated delivery date in 2021.

The Weingarten Story

The Weingarten story dates back to 1854, with the birth of Harris Weingarten in a poor village in Poland. A paraffin wax miner, Harris left Poland in the 1880s to seek new opportunities in America, eventually settling and opening up a dry-goods store in Houston. After many business ventures, Harris and his family launched the successful supermarket chain Weingarten's.

Under the leadership of Harris' eldest son Joe, the family founded Weingarten Markets Realty in 1948. This real estate enterprise initially built the family's new grocery stores, but quickly expanded into developing shopping centers. In 1962, Harris' grandson Stanford Alexander was named President of Weingarten Markets Realty.

In 1980, the family sold the supermarket chain, which had more than 100 grocery stores in five states. This change allowed the realty company to build and focus on its relationships with other supermarkets and anchor tenants, like pharmacies and value-oriented stores.

Weingarten Markets Realty restructured to a real estate investment trust (REIT) in 1984, becoming Weingarten Realty Investors listed as "WRI" on the NYSE.



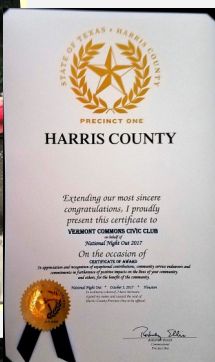


National Night Out — October 3rd

National Night Out was attended by nearly 100 residents. A great time was had by all. Children were given stuffed animals by the Constables, dogs were petted by all, and adults enjoyed making new friends and reacquainting with old ones.

A big thank you to Dr. Rebecca Harvey who graciously allowed VCCA to use her parking lot.

Also in attendance were two HPD officers and, at times, six Harris County Constables and a representative from Harris County Commissioner Rodney Ellis's office.



VCCA COFFEE

Meet your neighbors for breakfast and friendship at the monthly VCCA/Park Civic COFFEE gathering at La Madeleine French Bakery and Café at 2047 West Gray, Suite A on November 1st (the first Wednesday each month) at 9:00am. Note the earlier starting time as the gatherings at 10am ran into the lunch crowd. Come and join the fun.



Have you paid your VCCA dues?

Join VCCA by paying your dues and volunteering to assist in your community. Read the information on the certificate in the article titled Presentation. VCCA does have a huge impact on where you live. Please pay your dues and volunteer to assist. With more volunteers, VCCA can have more activities, resident interaction and anything else that may benefit where you live.

Presentation to the VCCA

A presentation to the VCCA on behalf of National Night Out was made by a representative from Commissioner Rodney Ellis's Office. The certificate states: *In appreciation and recognition of exceptional contributions, community service endeavors and commitments in furtherance of positive impacts on the lives of your community and others, for the benefit of the community.*



VCCA OFFICERS 2017-2018

Directors (replacing 1 President)

- Lillian Skogsberg
- Janet Meyer
- Nina Westerfeld
- Ann Terrel Green
- BR Simon
- Jeanette Hix

Treasurer: Chuck Randal

Vice President - Deed Restrictions: Andy Tallin

Newsletter: Michael Forlenza

VCCA HOLIDAY PARTY — Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to plan the VCCA Holiday Party. The will be Monday December 4th. The place and time have not been determined. Look for information in the December newsletter and online. The Holiday Party is always loads of fun so hope to see you at the event. Email Jeanette at hix@rmi.net to volunteer.

Recycling Update Mayor Turner announced that he expected curbside recycling in the City of Houston to resume in November. Please keep your green bins off of the street until further notice.



VCCA Everyday Heroes



Tom Hix and Andy Tallin

The dynamic duo repairing a Citizen Patrol sign that had been damaged by an automobile.



Cay Dickson

Ms. Dickson is working with the contractor constructing homes at the corner of Brun and Indiana to make sure that the blue tiles with the street names on the curb are not torn up or damaged.



November VCCA Yard of the Month—1615 McDuffie

The home is noted for its colorful autumn flowers. Stroll by to take a look. Please send your nominees for YOM for December to Lillian_skogsberg@earthlink.net by November 15th.

VCCA Citizens Patrol The Citizen Patrol had six patrollers that did 110 total hours in September. Elizabeth McKenzie was the top patroller for the month with 39 total hours. Thank you all for your service.

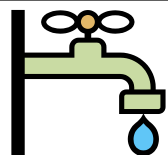
We welcome your news, photos, and editorials, but reserve the right to edit for clarity, style, and length. Send questions and contributions to vcca.newsletter@gmail.com. Submissions are due the 15th of the month preceding the newsletter. *Michael Forlenza Editor*

Got News?



RIVER OAKS GYM

Bring in this ad and receive a one-week pass and complimentary personal training session.
riveroaksgym.com
 1937 W. Gray, Suite 200
 (713) 528-4600



David Hicks Plumbing Inc.

"Since 1952"

Complete Plumbing Services
 Residential • Commercial • Repairs
 Remodeling • Gas Inspections
 Tankless Water Heaters

713 / 528.0141
davidhicksplumbing.com

Rebecca M. Harvey, D.D.S., P.A.

drharvey@dentisthouston.com
 2025 Fairview Houston, TX 77019
 Phone (713) 528-4054
 Fax (713) 528-1443
www.dentisthouston.com



Vermont Commons Civic Association
PO Box 130891
Houston, TX 77219-0891

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
Paid
Houston, TX
Permit 9079

Connect and communicate with
your neighbors in Vermont
Commons - join Nextdoor.com

Stay Connected @
vccahouston.org



Circle of Excellence, Hall of Fame, 2015 - #1 Top Producer

**WE
ARE**

#1 IN SALES \$250K AND UP,
\$500K AND UP AND
\$1M AND UP.

NO FINE PRINT.

"It's not about selling one house;

it's about building relationships."

Contact me with all your Real Estate needs.

Jay Monroe

BROKER ASSOCIATE

713.504.6936

Jay.Monroe@Sothebyshomes.com

Martha
Turner

Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY