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



## **March 2020**

## **CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER**



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## VCCA Happy Hours

On **March 9th**, VCCA will sponsor a Happy Hour at the bar area at Churrascos **at 6:30pm**. There won't be a speaker, so grab your friends and neighbors, walk down the street to Churrascos and meet and greet old and new friends. It is a perfect opportunity to share with everyone what is happening in the neighborhood and your life. Hope to see all of you there!

## VCCA Book Club



The VCCA Bookclub meets on the third Wednesday of each month from 2-3:30pm at

Cafe Express. Our book choices vary among the genres and provide opportunities for us to read books that we might not choose on our own. Join us on March 18th for a lively discussion of *Before We Were Yours*, by Lisa Wingate! For more information, please reach out to Natalie Browne at <u>nbrowne48@gmail.com</u>

## Monthly Coffee

Share a lovely morning of delicacies and friendship with your VCCA/Park Civic neighbors at 10am on the first Wednesday of each month at La Madeleine, 2047 West Gray. Hope to see you there on March 4th!

## **Annual Spring Picnic**

Date: Sunday, April 5th, 4pm

Location: 1605 Woodhead



We are very excited to start spreading the word about our annual Spring Picnic. Huge thanks to **Jim** and **Sheila Armsworth** for hosting the picnic in their beautiful yard yet again this year. Last year, close to 100 residents attended despite looming clouds. The face painter did a fabulous job, while James Coney Island set up a tent to cook fresh hot dogs. Don't miss out!



## WILDLIFE RESCUE SPCA HUGE HELP!

This very inspiring story appeared on Nextdoor recently. It shows what great and caring neighbors we have, and what a a valuable resource Wildlife Rescue SPCA is - keep it in mind if you ever encounter any wildlife.

"Hello all, just wanted to share how my New Year's Eve and Day went. On my way home from work around 7:30pm NYE, I was driving down Woodhead, in between W. Alabama and Richmond, I spotted an owl in the middle of Woodhead. Had to swerve to miss him. Had to turn around to check on him. He was still there in the same place, so I managed to get him in a paper bag very quickly. Next thing I knew, I had an owl in a bag, inside my car. I was thinking what rescue will be open on New Year's Day? Well, my wife found out the next morning the SPCA Wildlife rescue was! They were at our house by 11am sharp on New Year's Day! So if you find yourself in wildlife rescue and everyone is closed, call them!"

## February Happy Hour: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Our featured February speaker, Richard Nguyen of the City of Houston Solid Waste Management Department, gave residents some solid information on the do's and don'ts of clean recycling.

"Clean" refers to making sure that only the items approved by City Of Houston are placed into our curbside recycle bins. Items not approved for curbside recycling (foam, clothing, yard/tree waste, etc) can be dropped off at any of the six Neighborhood Depository & Recycling Centers around town - call 311 or visit <u>www.houstonsolidwaste.org</u> for the locations and operating hours.

Our speaker's information was also timely as to what to do with the expected detritus from Valentine's Day! According to Richard... the discarded roses are trash and don't go into the recycle can, the rinsed empty bottles of wine do go into the recycle can, and the empty boxes of chocolates do go into the recycle can but not the individual candy wrappers... they're too small. As Richard said, **"when in doubt, leave it out"!** 



Those attending the February Happy Hour not only learned valuable information about contributing to the neighborhood and the environment - they also had a great time with friends and neighbors! Be sure to join the fun with us next time.

#### DO RECYCLE:

- Aluminum and steel cans (Empty and rinse)
- Food and beverage cartons (Empty and replace cap)
- Glass bottles and jars (Empty and rinse)
- Paper; cereal boxes, newspaper, magazines and mail, cardboard and paper tubes
- Plastics; bottles, containers (Empty and replace cap)

#### DON'T RECYCLE:

- Items smaller than 4in x 4in
- · Don't bag your recyclables (especially in plastic!)
- Pizza boxes (w/ food, grease, or wax lining)
- Clothing or linens
- · Tanglers: hose, wires, chains, electronics
- Large rigid plastics: chairs, buckets
- Electronics, batteries
- Shredded paper
- Food or liquid (empty all containers)
- Yard trimmings
- Diapers
- Broken dishes, cups...
- Foam (#6 plastic)

Source: HoustonSolidWaste.org



### VCCA Event Schedule for 2020

- March 4 Coffee 10am
- March 9 Happy Hour 6:30pm
- March 18 Book Club 2pm
- April 1 Coffee 10am
- April 5 Spring Picnic 4pm
- April 15 Book Club 2pm
- May 6 Coffee 10am

#### **CITIZEN PATROL**

In January, 13 volunteers completed a total of **208 hours** of driving and walking patrol. These efforts helped keep the neighborhood safe for an average of **6.7 hours a day**! A heartfelt thank you to all volunteers, and especially to the veteran patroller **Bob Costantini**, who did 88 of those hours! If you'd like to learn more about Citizen Patrol, or to become a volunteer, contact David Hoyer at <u>davidhoyer@sbcglobal.net</u>.

# Vermont Commons

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#### VCCA OFFICERS 2020

Directors: Jeanette Hix, Stephanie Taylor, Nina Westerfeld, Janet Meyer, Lisa Meyer, Lillian Skogsberg, Ann Green Terrel

Treasurer: Chuck Randall

VP Deed Restrictions: Andy Tallin

**Newsletter:** Natalia Podosinnikova Send news, notices, photos, editorials, advertising requests to <u>nat.podo@gmail.com</u>. Submissions are due the 15th of the month preceding the newsletter.



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