



## CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Newsletter Published Monthly September — June  
Vermont Commons Civic Association  
PO Box 130891, Houston, TX 77219  
Issue No. 107

### VCCA Announcements

Unfortunately, COVID-19 has disrupted all VCCA activities, but VCCA is trying its best to keep residents connected with each other. In person happy hours and speakers will not take place, but there will be Zoom meetings with speakers. Abbie Kamin, the new council person for our district, will speak via Zoom on **October 12th**. The October newsletter will explain how you will be able to connect to the meeting. Get ready for your personal happy hour and join Zoom for a very informative speaker.

### VCCA Book Club

The VCCA Bookclub meets on the third Wednesday of each month from 2-3:30pm on Zoom. Our book choices vary among genres and provide opportunities for us to read books that we might not choose on our own. We welcome new members. Join us on **September 16** for a lively discussion of Moon Tiger, by Penelope Lively. For more information, please reach out to Natalie Browne at [nbrowne48@gmail.com](mailto:nbrowne48@gmail.com).



### VCCA Events

- September 16 — Book Club
- October 6 — National Night Out
- October 16 — Zoom Meeting with Council Person Abbie Kamin

### VCCA Volunteer Appreciation

It takes a VILLAGE to keep VCCA up and running and, as you can see by the long list of volunteers below, Vermont Commons has a fabulous VILLAGE. Many of these volunteers wear more than one hat and take on responsibilities in several areas. Because of COVID-19, VCCA is unable to have a Volunteer Appreciation happy hour. Therefore, to take the place of the happy hour the VCCA is placing a sign in front of all the volunteers' homes. The sign says "A VCCA Volunteer Lives Here. Thanks." If you see one of the signs, be sure and thank the resident.



These are the areas that VCCA Volunteers participate: Directors, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, Yard of the Month, Deed Restrictions, Webpage, Constable Patrol, Citizen Patrol, Graffiti Removal, Block Captains, Nextdoor, Catch Neuter and Release, and help with the many activities that VCCA sponsors.

#### VCCA Volunteers:

Adrianna Breidenstien	Tom Hix	Chuck Randall
Bob Costantini	David Hoyer	Henry Rojas
Cay Dickson	Ann Ince	Jim Skogsberg
Carole Dodson	Kristina Ireland	Lillian Skogsberg
Sam Dodson	Carolyn Levy	Dorothy Simon
Jackie Friedman	Lisa Meyer	Karen Sturtevant
Rob Fuller	Janet Meyer	Sara Strom
Marlene Garnant	Guy Michael	Andy Tallin
Ann Green-Terrel	Jo Ann Mazoch	Stephanie Taylor
Robert Hallenbeck	Kit Muire	Kathline Terracina
Jim Hassing	Nancy Parker	Nina Westerfeld
Nancy Higgs	Natalia	Robert Wise
Jeanette Hix	Podosinnikova	

Send news, notices, photos, editorials, or advertising requests to [jmazoch@smu.edu](mailto:jmazoch@smu.edu). Submissions are due the 14th of the month preceding the newsletter.  
*Jo Ann Mazoch, Editor*

## NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

**When:** National Night Out is on **October 6th**. Put the date on your calendar!

**What:** National Night Out is an annual community building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement, while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances. Millions of neighbors take part in National Night Out across thousands of communities from all fifty states, U.S. territories and military bases worldwide on the first Tuesday in August (Texas and select areas celebrate on the first Tuesday in October).

**Where:** For the health and safety of the community, VCCA will not have a National Night Out gathering. Instead, VCCA is creating another way to celebrate. The VCCA Directors and Officers will drive through the neighborhood forming a parade led by the Constable, followed by an ice cream truck and a cocktail truck on the streets of Vermont Commons.

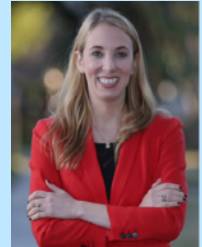
Residents are asked to make signs for National Night Out and sit on their driveway or front porch to celebrate. More details will follow in the October newsletter.



For more information about National Night Out please visit their website <https://natw.org/about/>.

## Meet District C Council Person Abbie Kamin

Abbie Kamin is a fourth-generation District C resident and has advocated for her community at every level of government. As Council Member, Kamin chairs the Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee and is Vice Chair of the Quality of Life Committee. She is also a member of the following committees: Budget and Fiscal Affairs, Childhood and Youth, and Economic Development.



Council Person Kamin has already made a big impact in the VCCA committee. After multiple failed attempts from our Graffiti Committee directly to the developer to remedy this eyesore on Driscoll Street, the committee contacted Kamin. Kamin's staff effectively and efficiently intervened on behalf of VCCA.



Before



After

Join us on via Zoom on October 16 to meet Council Person Kamin and thank her for the work she is already doing in our community!

## VCCA Officers 2020-2021

**Directors:** Jeanette Hix (Lead Director), Stephanie Taylor, Nina Westerfeld, Janet Meyer, Lisa Meyer, Lillian Skogsberg, Ann Green Terrel

**Treasurer:** Chuck Randall

**VP Deed Restrictions:** Andy Tallin

**Newsletter:** Jo Ann Mazoch

## QuaranTEACH

QuaranTEACH Houston is a Facebook page described as a space for families to connect with educators as well as a place for parents looking for tutors, advice, homeschool tips, and more. This private Facebook group quickly grew to almost 6,000 members in the first month of its creation and could be a great resource for families in the Houston area as school starts back up. Checkout the page to either find (or become) a tutor in and around the neighborhood, or get advice on how to effectively help your kids navigate online learning. We wish all the VCCA families and teachers good luck and patience as they navigate the new school year!



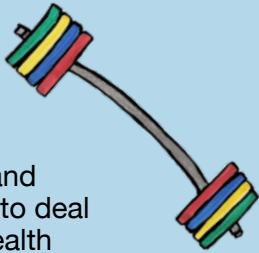
2012 Vermont



VCCA Yard of the Month

### RIVER OAKS GYM

Our long time loyal supporter, River Oaks Gym, is open and has added sanitation and safety technology to deal with the current health situation. As a result of limited membership, there are never more than 6-8 people in the facility. Thank you River Oaks Gym!



### CITIZEN PATROL

Citizen Patrol had 11 patrollers that did a total of 254 hours of driving and walking in July. That amounts to over 8 hours of volunteering to keep our neighborhood safe per day! Well done!

However, we did have one incident. My daughter's car was burglarized when she left it out in our driveway overnight (despite her father's suggestion to move it into the garage...). Most of you may be aware, but this is a reminder that the risk of burglary may be increasing with the bad economy.

If you'd like to learn more about Citizen Patrol, or to become a volunteer, contact David Hoyer at [davidhoyer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:davidhoyer@sbcglobal.net).

### CLEAR WATERWAYS

A resident has been putting this cute sticker on drains in the area. Clear Waterways' mission is to remove trash from beaches, streams and drains that are outfall areas from urban runoff; habitat restoration. With Hurricane Season upon us, we all need to do our part to keep the drains free of debris to help mitigate flooding.



Please reach out to the VCCA if you have placed the stickers so that we can give you credit for your work in our community!



## RIVER OAKS GYM

Bring in this ad and receive a one-week pass and complimentary personal training session.  
[riveroaksgym.com](http://riveroaksgym.com)  
1937 W. Gray, Suite 200

## Vermont Commons

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