



Vermont Commons

CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

June 2023



Newsletter Published Monthly September — June
Issue No. 136

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

LAST NEWSLETTER UNTIL SEPTEMBER

What a wonderful year full of fun and friendship we have had in Vermont Commons! The VCCA is so happy that there was such huge attendance at all the activities. It is now time for a break for the summer to give the officers and other volunteers a chance to make plans for the coming year. If there are speakers or activities you would like to see in the coming year, please let us know. All suggestions and new volunteers are very much appreciated and welcomed. See you in September!

BOOK CLUB AND COFFEE

The two activities that will continue over the summer are the Book Club and the First Wednesday Coffee. The Coffee is not just a ladies affair; men are very welcome. Perhaps a men's-only coffee will be started next year!

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

VCCA Officers are elected in June. This past year's officers have all agreed to continue in their current positions. These candidates will be re-elected at the June Happy Hour. Thank you for all the volunteer hours you have donated in behalf of VCCA. And they are: Directors: Lead Director Jeanette Hix, Directors Stephanie Taylor, Nina Westerfeld, Lisa Meyer, Janet Meyer, Lillian Skogsberg, and Anne Taylor Green, Treasurer Kay Johnson, and newsletter editor Beverly McPhail.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Assistance is needed with the VCCA Web Page. The Web Page needs to be updated and some changes made. The program that is used is called WordPress. If you have the skills and the time, please contact Jeanette Hix at hix@rmi.net. VCCA appreciates any help that can be offered.

HAPPY HOUR AND SPEAKER

The June 12 Happy Hour will be from 6:30 pm until 8:30 pm at Churrasco's. The speaker is Abbie Kamin, the council member from District C, who will be at the Happy Hour and speak at 7:30pm. Abbie Kamin represents District C, the district VCCA is in. She will discuss what is happening and may be happening in our immediate and general neighborhood. She will take questions after her presentation. Bring your questions and enjoy our only speaker for the year. VCCA hopes to have more speakers next year.

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 7- Coffee, 10am,
Empire Cafe

June 12- Happy Hour,
6:30pm, Churassco's,
Councilwoman Abbie
Kamen to speak at 7:30pm.

June 21 - Book Club
Summer Meeting 2 pm -
3:30pm

July 19 - Book Club,
2-3:30pm

August 16 - Book Club,
2-3:30pm

No Summer Newsletter

The newsletter takes a break in July and August. Look for your next copy in the mailbox in September. Happy Summer everyone! Travel safely, if travel plans are in your future!

SUBMISSIONS

Send news, notices, photos, editorials, or advertising requests to Beverly McPhail at bevmcphail@icloud.com. Submissions are due by the 12th of the month preceding the newsletter.

To read the newsletter in color, go to vccahouston.org

BOOK CLUB

The VCCA Book Club meets every third Wednesday of the month from 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. We read a variety of genres that include books that we might not have read otherwise. Summer choices for discussion are: **June:** *Two Old Women: An Alaska Legend of Betrayal, Courage & Survival*, by Velma Wallace. **July:** *Remarkably Bright Creatures*, by Shelby Van Pelt. **August:** *True Biz*, by Sara Novic. We welcome new members! Please contact Natalie Browne at nbrowne48@gmail.com if you have any questions or wish to join us at the June 21 meeting.

CITIZEN PATROL

Citizens patrolling in April were fewer in number, but big in spirit. We had 10 neighbors patrolling for a total of 140 hours. Email lillian_skogsberg@earthlink.net if you have any questions.

MONTHLY COFFEE

The monthly **Coffee Klatch** meets at Empire Cafe on Westheimer at Elmen on the first Wednesday of the month at **10:00 am**. Attend to enjoy conversation, laughter and camaraderie.

VCCA OFFICERS 2022-23

Directors: Jeanette Hix (Lead Director), Stephanie Taylor, Nina Westerfeld, Janet Meyer, Lisa Meyer, Lillian Skogsberg, & Ann Green Terrel
Treasurer: Kay Johnson
Deed Restrictions: Andy Tallin
Newsletter: Beverly McPhail

Restaurant News!

One of the pleasures of being in our neighborhood is being within walking distance of great shopping and dining! Several new restaurants have opened within walking distance of Vermont Commons. Walk there and let them know you are from the neighborhood!!

Ever driven by Men's Wearhouse on West Gray and Driscoll and wonder about all the construction that was going on? It turns out the construction was not on Men's Wearhouse, but a new restaurant on the second floor! It is called Albi, which means "my heart" in Arabic. "The upscale restaurant arrives with a menu marrying Lebanese, Turkish, and Greek cuisines from consulting chef Mark Cox, who Houston diners know from his many years helming Mark's American Cuisine. Cox, working with executive chef Christian Hernandez, formerly chef de cuisine of March, have created a menu inspired by the Levant region of the Middle East with dishes such as shrimp falafel with heirloom tomatoes, beets with yogurt and pickled berries, tuna tartare with Aleppo peppers and apricot coulis, trumpet mushroom shawarma with tzatziki sauce, Texas wagyu steaks, kebabs and seafood, and jidori chicken roulade stuffed with sausage and golden raisins. For dessert there's lemon halva tart with olive oil ice cream, Basque cheesecake, and pistachio tiramisu" (Houston Chronicle May 5, Greg Morano).

Cocody is "a contemporary fine-dining restaurant & bar situated on one of the most prestigious streets in Houston, Texas, West Gray. The restaurant will have a chef's table, lounge bar, patio seating, and a beautifully-designed main dining room. We are passionate about gastronomy, food, cocktails, and art."

All in the VCCA Family

Our group is taking a summer hiatus. If you are interested in connecting with other neighborhood families, please join our Facebook group, All in the VCCA Family, or email AllintheVCCAFamily@gmail.com to be added to the WhatsApp chat group.



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Well-Attended End-Of-the-Year Picnic

The annual VCCA Picnic was held on April 16 at 4pm at 1605 Woodhead. There were over 75 people attending; our largest turn-out yet! Thanks to everyone who planned, hosted or attended the picnic. A great time was had by all! If you missed it this year, there is always next year!



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