



# Vermont Commons

## CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

### November 2023



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Issue No. 139

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

#### VCCA DUES

It is that time of year when VCCA is asking residents to join VCCA. The dues are \$40.00 per household. A check can be mailed to the address at the top of the newsletter or one can pay by Zelle. Information for using Zelle is on the VCCA web page [vccahouston.org](http://vccahouston.org). With the help of additional residents, VCCA can bring even more programs to the neighborhood and improve where we live (read tree article/neighborhood markers). If you would like to receive an email about VCCA events, send your information to [hix@rmi.net](mailto:hix@rmi.net)

#### IN NEED OF EDITOR FOR VCCA NEWSLETTER

Beverly McPhail has faithfully edited the newsletter for the last two years. She is relocating to be near family and the last newsletter she will edit is the December issue. Please consider volunteering for this very important part of VCCA. The editor spends 2 to 3 hours a month compiling the newsletter. The editor does not write the articles. Contact Jeanette Hix [hix@rmi.net](mailto:hix@rmi.net) if you are interested in volunteering.

#### VCCA HAPPY HOUR

Join VCCA on November 14 for the VCCA Happy Hour at Churrasco's at 6:30pm. It is an opportunity to greet old friends and make new ones.

#### NEW VCCA COMMITTEE ORGANIZED TO ENCOURAGE TREE PLANTING

The presence of trees in an area can reduce temperatures by up to 10 degrees. The difference between 85 degrees and 95 degrees can certainly be felt. At the Directors meeting on October 9, a resident suggested that VCCA organize a committee to increase the number of trees in the neighborhood. Six residents volunteered to begin the investigation to see how this could be accomplished. Once a plan is formalized, VCCA will come to the community to seek help from residents to participate. Watch for more information as this project progresses.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

**November 1** - Coffee, 10am, Empire Cafe

**November 14** - Happy Hour, 6:30pm, Churrasco's,

**November 15** - Book Club Meeting 2 pm - 3:30pm

**Look forward to these events!**

Holiday Party

Outdoor Music Event

Holiday Decorations Contest

#### NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

VCCA apologizes to all who were inconvenienced by the cancellation of National Night Out due to the rain forecast. There is always next year!

#### SUBMISSIONS

Send news, notices, photos, editorials, or advertising requests to Beverly McPhail at [bevmcphail@icloud.com](mailto: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](http://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. The book for November 15 is *The Paris Library* by Janet Skeslien Charles. We welcome new members! Please contact Natalie Browne at [nbrowne48@gmail.com](mailto:nbrowne48@gmail.com) if you have any questions or wish to join us at the November 15 meeting.

## CITIZEN PATROL

Our neighbors continue to walk & report hours walked & driven. We had 10 patrollers report walking & driving time in September. We had 131 hours reported and Bob Costantini led everyone in hours walked. I hope fall weather helps our walking routines. Email [lillian\\_skogsberg@earthlink.net](mailto: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 Terrel Green  
**Treasurer:** Kay Johnson  
**Deed Restrictions:** Andy Tallin  
**Newsletter:** Beverly McPhail

## ALL IN THE VCCA FAMILY

All in the VCCA Family members met up for brunch at Empire Cafe in September. The families enjoyed conversation and coffee under the shaded patio on a hot Houston day. Many kids enjoyed stuffing their faces with delicious pancakes. Community-building at its finest! For parents and caregivers of children interested in connecting with other neighborhood families, please join our Facebook group, All in the VCCA Family, or email [AllintheVCCAFamily@gmail.com](mailto:AllintheVCCAFamily@gmail.com) to be added to the WhatsApp chat group. We'd love it if you did!



## NEIGHBORHOOD MARKERS

VCCA is planning to put neighborhood markers at some of the entrances to Vermont Commons. Volunteers are investigating using the style and colors of the old street signs. At the corner of Brun and Haddon is the original concrete marker the City of Houston used at all intersections. The next markers the City of Houston used are the blue and white street names signs that are on the curbs. These City signs have special protections, so they cannot be removed or defaced. The purpose of installing the new neighborhood markers is to distinguish and define our neighborhood as a unique community.



2015 Driscoll

## Thanks to our Vermont Common's Graffiti Removal Team

The City of Houston treats graffiti vandalism as a crime, not a prank. Studies show that the removal of graffiti within 24 to 48 hours results in a nearly zero rate of reoccurrence. Here in Vermont Commons we have a Graffiti Removal Team that springs into action when graffiti is observed in our neighborhood. Thanks to these hard-working women: Kristina Ireland, Sheila Armsworth, and Nancy Higgs.



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### Dr. Rebecca M Harvey

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to form Houston Dental Partners.

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November 2023



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