



Vermont Commons

CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

March 2026



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Issue No. 163

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

MARCH HAPPY HOUR AND SPEAKER

On the second Monday of March—**March 9th**—VCCA is featuring a speaker from the City of Houston Solid Waste Management Department. The speaker will focus primarily on recycling. We'll kick things off with **Happy Hour at 6:30 pm**, followed by our speaker **at 7:00 pm**. Thanks to VCCA volunteer Rick Hellyar for arranging. Come early to grab some food and drinks, catch up with neighbors, and meet the speaker at Goode Company Cantina on West Gray. See you there!

INPUT FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD

At our February Annual Meeting, neighbors shared so many thoughtful and inspiring ideas for our community. The VCCA Directors are excited and committed to bringing as many of these ideas to life as possible!

We discussed the current state of our association. Our Treasurer reported that membership has declined, and the cost of producing our newsletter—published monthly from September through June—has increased. Until October's price increase, advertising revenue had covered the full cost of publication. With strong support from those in attendance, annual dues will increase from \$40 to \$50 beginning in September to help us continue offering the programs and communication our neighborhood values.

There was great enthusiasm for increasing awareness of our activities by placing more neighborhood signs throughout the area.

Several additional ideas received overwhelming support:

- Restarting the Block Captain Program, with friendly volunteers welcoming new families and sharing information about everything VCCA offers
- Forming a neighborhood clean-up committee
- Organizing a community-wide garage sale

We're grateful to the neighbors who have already volunteered to help launch these initiatives—be sure to check the inside page for the full list.

Together, we can keep building a connected, vibrant neighborhood. Thank you for being part of it!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday March 4

10am Men & Ladies Coffee,
Empire Café

Monday March 9

6:30pm Happy Hour &
Speaker
Goode Company Cantina

Renewal & New Member
signup for VC Constable
Patrol Program (page 2)



SUBMISSIONS

Send news, notices, photos, or advertising requests to Chris Lane at vccahoustonTX@gmail.com. Submissions are due by the 12th of the month preceding the newsletter.

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

DUES REMINDER

Join the VCCA fun for only \$40! Go to our website for instructions at www.vccahouston.org. We accept Zelle, checks and cash. VCCA membership is open to all residents, both owners and renters. Help support your neighborhood events.

CITIZENS ON PATROL

The new year started with chilly temps and ideal walking weather. We had 320 hours reported. Bob Costantini and Stephanie Taylor were our top walkers. Keep on walking! Email questions to lillian_skogsberg@earthlink.net.

MONTHLY COFFEE

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

VCCA OFFICERS 2025-26

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

Treasurer: Kay Johnson

Deed Restrictions: Andy Tallin

Newsletter: Chris Lane

AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

VERMONT COMMONS CONSTABLE PATROL PROGRAM

The VC Security Foundation (VCSF) held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on January 15, 2026, and we thank Constable Rosen, Capt. Bender and Deputy Shannon, together with our Program Members, for attending the meeting. At the AGM, Constable Rosen provided an overview of Precinct 1's constable program initiatives. The VCSF Board provided membership and financial reports and held Board elections.

Following the AGM, the 2026 Constable program membership renewal and new Member drive kicked off February 1, 2026. Residents in the Vermont Commons/Park Civic/Lewisdale neighborhoods are eligible to participate in the program. We encourage existing Members to renew timely, and neighbors interested in becoming a member to contact us at info@vcpatrol.com. Complete information on our neighborhood Constable program and how renew or become a new Member can be found at: <http://www.vcpatrol.com>. The VCSF Board always welcomes questions and feedback about the Program.

NEW HEAVY TRASH PICKUP SYSTEM

Have you heard about the City of Houston's new on-demand heavy trash and tree waste pickup, beginning March 1st? There will no longer be a regular schedule. Residents will now call 311 to schedule a pickup. Once scheduled, collections will occur within 5 working days. You will be able to schedule 4 pickup appointments a year. Hopefully this will eliminate unsightly heavy trash and yard waste sitting on our curbs for weeks.

You can download the *HTX Collects* app to determine your trash pickup collection schedule and locate drop-off centers.



1807 McDuffie

VCCA FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS

NEIGHBORS STEPPING UP

Thanks to these residents who responded at the VCCA Happy Hour/Annual Meeting held February 9th. VCCA needed assistance and these residents stepped up to help create a better place in the community.

Sign Topper Removal: Rachel Savage, Jay Johnson, Cay Dickson, Nancy Gill

Block Captains: Nancy Gill, Marlene Garnet, Janet Evans, Rachel Savage

Trash pickup: Andy Tallin, Justine Adeletta, Marlene Garnet, Steph Taylor, Ann Ince, Janet Meyer, Shelia Armsworth, Lisa Meyer. Everyone can help by picking up the trash around your curbs!

Recycling: Nick Hellyar

Website: Janet Evans

Ann Ince volunteered to be part of a committee that will regularly meet/contact the City of Houston about areas of concern in our community: how to reduce so much cut through traffic, repair those streets that have not been upgraded, placement of speed bumps, etc. If you want to help this group, email hix@rmi.net.

PROTECT CURBSIDE RECYCLING

Sorting properly is important. Contamination can disrupt the recycling process and send good materials to the landfill. **Do Not Bag Your Recyclables!** Bagged recyclables are the number 1 contaminant & cause of tangling the recycling equipment. Keep your recyclables loose & free.

Do not place the following in your green recycle bin: batteries or electronics, yard waste, household items, furniture, food or liquids, scrap metal or wood, shredded paper, tanglers including electrical cords & hoses, plastic bags or trash. Visit www.houstonrecycles.org for more information. And remember, **When in doubt, throw it out!**



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HAPPY HOUR
March 9



March 2026



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block and around the world.

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