



Crestwood / Glen Cove Neighborhood

Crestwood Civic Club

Volume 8, Issue 2

Message from the President

Please make plans to attend the Civic Club's next bi-annual All-Neighborhood Meeting to be held Tuesday, October 12, 2010, at 7:00PM in St. Theresa's Catholic Church. The church is located at 6622 Haskell, next to Memorial Park, and the meeting will be held in the cafeteria on the east side. These meetings provide an opportunity for residents to discuss topics of interest, allow us to get to know each other, and help build a sense of community.

Speaking at the meeting will be District G Houston City Council Member Oliver Pennington. As a member of the "Neighborhood Protection and Quality of Life" and "Public Safety and Homeland Security" council committees, Mr. Pennington has recently been reaching out to his constituency soliciting suggestions as to how the City might better serve the residents of Houston in reducing crime.

Also addressing us will be Jane West, President of the Washington Avenue/Memorial Park Super Neighborhood #22. For those unfamiliar with Super Neighborhoods, they are comprised of residents and stakeholders within a geographic area of the City. They provide an efficient forum for the identification and discussion of issues within the area, and the development of action plans for community improvement.

Mike VanDusen



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**** NEWS ****

**** FLASH ****

Oliver Pennington, City Council Member for District G, and Jane West, President of the Super Neighborhood for Washington/Memorial Park will be present at the October 12th, Neighborhood Meeting to talk about crime, traffic and hear about issues facing our neighborhood.

Status Update on Outer Loop Trail Project

After strong opposition from our neighborhood, the Memorial Park Conservancy and the City of Houston Parks Department have reconsidered the trail proposed for the west side of Crestwood. The trail would have started at Memorial and continued to Arnot before connecting with the new outer loop trail proposed for the outside of the Loop Drive through the north side of the Park.

Several residents of the neighborhood addressed City Council, voicing their concerns about relocating the trail from its originally approved location on the east side of the East Loop Drive. Members of the Civic Club board attended Council meetings to monitor the position of the Mayor and Council Members, and met with Joe Turner and Rick Dewees of the Parks Department, and Sally Tyler of the Memorial Park Conservancy to explain our opposition.

Soon after the Spring Neighborhood meeting, it was learned that the Conservancy and Parks Department were reconsidering their decision and within approximately 6 weeks, the Conservancy updated their master plan to terminate the outer trail at Arnot, rather than extending east to Crestwood.

While this seems reassuring, it should be pointed out that neither the Conservancy nor the Parks Department have committed to continuing the trail along the East Loop Drive south to Memorial from Arnot as was approved by City Council in the original master plan. This means that we should remain vigilant to ensure that the Crestwood Trail does not "reappear" in the future.

What is Super Neighborhood 22?

Super Neighborhood 22 is a recognized council of civic clubs and community groups within a twelve mile range which includes Washington Avenue and Memorial Park in Houston. The council serves as a forum where residents and stakeholders can discuss issues impacting their neighborhood, reach a consensus on projects and develop a super neighborhood action plan (SNAP) for community improvements. Contact them at SN22. Post Office Box 70886. Houston. 77270.

History of Our Neighborhood by long time resident Diana Musslewhite

In order to understand and appreciate our neighborhood, we need to first take a step back in history. In this series of articles, we will first look at what is now Memorial Park.

For thousands of years, Memorial Park was home to tribes of Native Americans. It was not until the early 1800s, before Texas gained its independence, that travelers camped there, in what was then a lush tropical growth along Buffalo Bayou.

A.C. Reynolds was the first to hold title to the land, operating a saw mill until 1835 when he moved away. Others came, including Robert Kleberg, whose descendants owned the famous King Ranch. At some point in the early 1900s, interest began in developing the area as a park. One early supporter was Mayor Horace Baldwin Rice, nephew of William Marsh Rice. In 1909 and again in 1912, he urged the public to take action to acquire the area for park use. The public was resistant to the idea, and it would take some years and a World War before public opinion changed.

Next: Camp Logan

Welcome to The Texas Bottle Bill

The proposed Texas Bottle Bill for 2011 will initiate a 10c refundable deposit on all aluminum, glass, and plastic beverage containers sold in the State of Texas.



Litter travels from all corners of Texas in our storm drains and waterways until it



reaches the Gulf of Mexico.

The mission of the Texas Bottle Bill is to stop the unnecessary and improper disposal of valuable resources and to help create jobs in our communities here in Texas. For more information visit their website at <http://texasbottlebill.com>

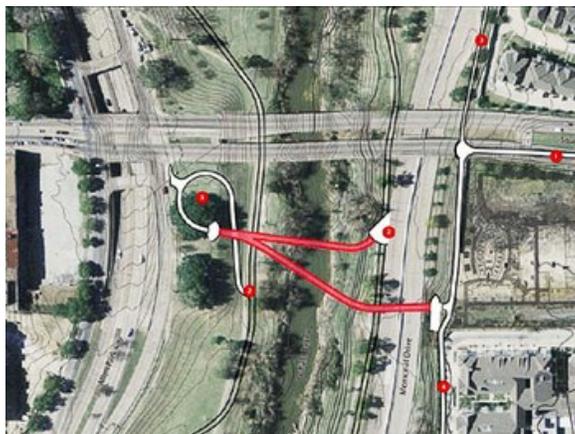
Board Members

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BUFFALO BAYOU CHANGE IS AFOOT

The Bayou Preservation Association is a citizen's group whose mission is to "protect and restore the richness and diversity of our waterways". BPA facilitates collaborative projects and public awareness about the region's bayous in order to foster watershed management, conservation, and recreation along Houston's defining natural resource.

Change is afoot along Houston's most iconic waterway, and the [Buffalo Bayou Partnership](#) wants to imprint the city's voice into its future paths. The organization held community meetings to share their ideas and recommendations for enhancing the Shepherd to Sabine stretch of Buffalo Bayou. Updates were provided on projects currently underway and planned for the near future, including construction of a new pedestrian bridge and trails, Harris County Flood Control District's "pilot project" that seeks to restore a small stretch of the bayou channel and the City of Houston and TxDots' rebuilding of bike trails that have fallen into disrepair.



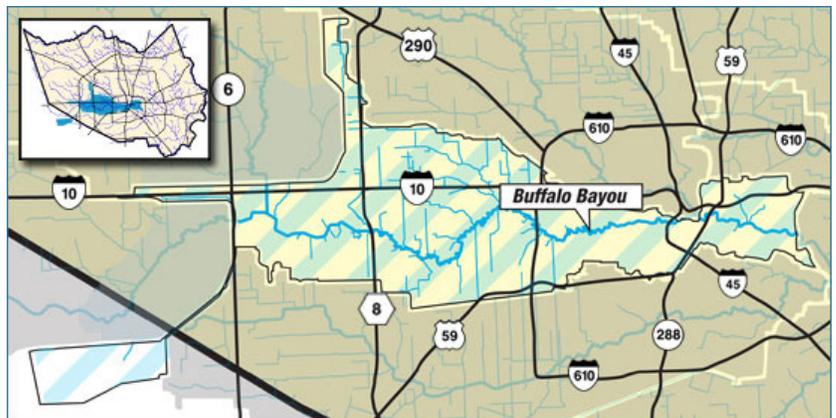
[Guy Hagstette](#) — who recently stepped down as Discovery Green's founding president and park director to focus on the Buffalo Bayou — moderated the meetings. In addition to managing the overall planning, design and construction of Discovery Green, Hagstette also served as the special assistant to the mayor for urban design for a period, and was a key player in the redevelopment of downtown in a previous position at the Houston Downtown Management District.

Also on the table will be the impending connection of [Memorial](#) and Spotts parks to the bayou trail system for the first time. Crossing under the Shepherd Drive Bridge, a new trail will allow bicyclists and joggers to safely connect to Memorial Drive sidewalks and on to Memorial Park.

About the Buffalo Bayou Watershed

The Buffalo Bayou watershed drains an area that is mostly within the City of Houston and, to a lesser degree, the Memorial Villages. It is the largest primary stream within the watershed and also the sole outlet for the Addicks and Barker reservoirs. The bayou flows into the Houston Ship Channel after combining with White Oak Bayou and passing through downtown Houston becoming the Houston Ship Channel at the Turning Basin. The watershed covers approximately 103 square miles and has about 47 miles of open streams within the watershed, including the primary stream and tributary channels.

Early regional planning for the entire watershed was completed by the Corps. The Corps enlarged and straightened Buffalo Bayou from the Addicks and Barker dam outlets to approximately where Beltway 8 exists today. Upstream of the I-610 West Loop, there are numerous tributaries flowing into Buffalo Bayou which have been included in various levels of sub-regional planning. Some are now concrete-lined channels, or have been fully enclosed as storm sewer systems; others have not been modified. Addicks and Barker Reservoirs were constructed to protect areas downstream along Buffalo Bayou and downtown Houston. Linear stormwater detention, to store excess flood waters, has been constructed by the District in the right-of-way of Buffalo Bayou between Wilcrest Drive and Dairy Ashford Road.



Neighborhood Security

Many of you are acutely aware of the security issues we have been facing in our neighborhood. In response, the Civic Club board solicited and received sufficient funds to amend the contract with the Precinct 1 Constable's office to extend the patrol coverage of the neighborhood from 40 to 80 hours per week. The additional Constable will start in October, and the invoice distributed this fall will reflect the continued expanded service through 2011. Thanks to Lisa Cooper and Andrea Russo for their continued work in support of the Constable Service.

The Civic Club board continues to feel that the service is an effective deterrence to crime in our neighborhood, since the majority of security incidences have occurred at times when the Constable was not on patrol. Even with the expanded service, residents are encouraged to take measures to prevent becoming a victim of crime.

Preventative measures begin with being aware of and reporting suspicious behavior. Vehicle protection includes removing items attractive to burglars, garaging when possible, and using theft deterrent devices such as alarms and column locking devices. When garaging is not possible, parking in a well-lighted area is desirable. Home protection begins with secure doors, with deadbolt locks, and windows equipped with security locks. Perimeter security includes keeping vegetation pruned and outdoor lighting. Alarm and camera systems offer further deterrence when properly used. This includes remembering to activate the alarm upon leaving, and enabling perimeter zones when inside the home. Finally, never open your door to anyone unknown to you.

Residents are encouraged to become acquainted with their neighbors. Know who belongs in your neighborhood, and report suspicious activity immediately.

Blockheads

We are fortunate to have residents who volunteer to greet new neighbors and deliver relevant and timely information to residents of our area. Twice each year, we create a Neighborhood Newsletter. While we distribute an electronic version of the Newsletter, our volunteer Blockheads go the extra mile and deliver paper copies to residents who continue to elect to receive a physical copy of the newsletter.

This is a time consuming commitment that has been operating smoothly since the inception of our Civic Club. We would like to thank all those who have been part of this important initiative.

On our website (www.crestwoodglencove.org), you will see a list of streets and the current "Blockhead" assigned to your street. You can contact a Blockhead directly by using the email on the website or sending a message to Susi Knight at communications@crestwoodglencove.org.

We always encourage additional volunteers to help deliver on streets without Blockheads. Contact Susi Knight if you are interested in helping with this important activity at communications@crestwoodglencove.org or by phoning 713-494-0372.

Street	Blockhead
Arnot, Byway, Haskell	Joan Hughes
Blossom	Ellen Lapointe
Camelia	Sharon Choens
Crestwood, NOM	Marilyn Ho
Crestwood, SOM	Joni Landon
East Cowan, NOB	Cherrill Farnsworth
East Cowan, SOB	JoAnn Owens
Feagan	Anne Coles
Floyd	Ofelia Vujasinovic
Glencove	Katy Emde
Glenwood	Minnette Carrabba
Memorial	Lenny Handy
Rose	Ofelia Mayo
Terrace, NOB	Susanna Nelson
Terrace, SOB	Mary Christ
West Cowan	Rebecca Marvil

Fall Block Party—Sunday, October 24th

The annual Crestwood / Glen Cove all-neighborhood party – aka "Block Party" - will be held on Sunday, October 24 from 2-5 on Terrace Drive (from addresses 311 to 323). Back by popular demand, Randy Marshall will again serenade us as we talk with our neighbors. Children's activities include animal balloons, face painting, and moon walk. Beverages and, from the grill, brats and hot dogs, will be available for everyone (and beer for adults). We are asking neighbors to bring desserts though this is definitely not a requirement.

Be sure to mark the date on your calendar. This block party is once again sponsored by Mary Christ at Greenwood King Properties. If you have any interest in helping out, please contact Mary at 713.410.4888 or MaryC@GreenwoodKing.com. Hope to see you there...

Grand Opening Event: Lora Jean Kilroy Visitor and Education Center at Museum of Fine Arts, Houston

On Saturday, September 25th, the Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens opened the Lora Jean Kilroy Visitor and Education Center, fulfilling the vision of Bayou Bend's founder, legendary Houston philanthropist and collector Miss Ima Hogg.

The project also features the renovation and reinstallation of several significant rooms within the house museum, displaying both new acquisitions and objects not

exhibited before, including extensive and significant collections of silver and textiles. The public was invited to celebrate the opening and the day was filled with music, performances, activities, games, and refreshments.

A variety of craft activities, colonial-era games, gardening tours and workshops, puppetry, and re-enactment performances add color and excitement to the day's festivities.



Civic Club Voluntary Dues & 2010 - 2011 Neighborhood Directory

You should have received a bill for the 2010 voluntary Crestwood Civic Club dues in the past few months. Dues are \$60 per household (\$20 for seniors). These dues fund neighborhood projects such as the tree planting project in the Westcott median and the Crestwood / Glen Cove monument at the corner of Westcott and Memorial Drive. This year homeowners who paid their dues by June 30 were also given the option to have their addresses painted on their curbs in the distinctive green and white colors.

All homeowners who pay their dues will receive a copy of the neighborhood directory. Please be sure your information is correct! If you have any questions about paying your dues or neighborhood directory updates, please contact Mary Christ at maryc@greenwoodking.com. Directories should be distributed by the end of October.

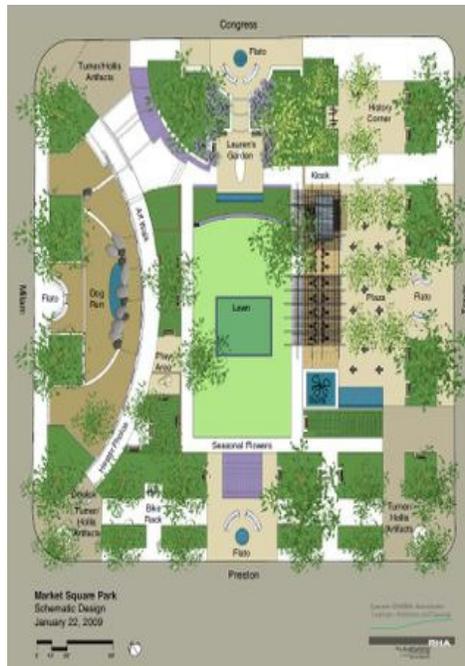
Market Square Park Redevelopment. Dogs. Flowers. Gyros.

Market Square Park, the original heart of community activity in Houston, is once again the place to be. Combining live entertainment, tasty temptations by Niko Niko's, shady walkways and a dog run to rival all dog runs. Like we in Crestwood Glencove enjoy our neighborhood, Market Square Park will be reminiscent of foregone era where our downtown neighbors gather and enjoy the space they call home.

A grand re-opening celebration was held on August 28th with live entertainment.

Market Square isn't your average community park. With the addition of a window style service with Niko Niko's, parkgoers will enjoy wonderful Greek food while sitting outdoors nestled in the shade and enjoying a glass of Greek wine.

As well as onsite café, free live concerts are planned for the fall. From our neighborhood, it's a short 5 mile bike run, jog, or drive down to the park to soak-up



the atmosphere of live music filling the streets of historic downtown Houston Market Square is steeped in history by Texas Standards, so it is only natural that

the goals of the redesigned Market Square was to acknowledge this history while creating an active, urban green space that could meet the needs of a downtown residents while attracting enough residents to help make the project financially viable.

In the 1900's, the square was the site of the original City Hall. The north end of the lawn is dedicated to Lauren's Garden, Lauren Catuzzi Grandcolas, a passenger on United Airlines Flight 93 and all those lost on September 11.

This is a very handsome park and worthwhile the short 5 mile journey from our neighborhood to theirs. Ample parking is available after 6pm.

Let's help support the city, the Park and Niko Niko's to let them know this type of investment is worthwhile.

Crestwood Civic Club

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Happy, Healthy and Wholesome

