

vccahouston.org

PO Box 130891

Houston, TX 77219-0891



September 2018

## CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

**First Monday  
September 3**



Newsletter Published Monthly September — June  
Vermont Commons Civic Association  
PO Box 130891, Houston, TX 77219  
Issue No. 87

### September VCCA Happy Hour

VCCA monthly happy hours are the 2nd Monday, September through June at Churrasco's, 2055 Westheimer, Shepherd Square Shopping Center (in front of Randall's). **There is no happy hour gathering in October.** Join us for National Night Out on October 2nd.

### VCCA National Night Out

**Date:** Tuesday October 2nd, 2018

**Time:** 6:00pm

**Location:** Parking lot of Dr. Rebecca Harvey's Dentist Office @ 2025 Fairview

*Bring food and drinks to share. A chair if you need one.*



What is National Night Out? It is a fun way to strengthen relationships between community members and law enforcement agencies, resulting in:

- Heightened awareness for crime and drug prevention.
- Increased support for, and participation in local anti-crime programs.
- Sending a message to criminals that our neighborhood is actively engaged deterring and fighting crime.

We welcome all VCCA members!

**Celebrate and strengthen our community**, by finding out what's going on in the neighborhood, and taking a bite out of crime. Bring your partner, spouse, kids, and well-behaved dogs. Join us!

### VCCA Happy Hour & Speaker Surviving an Active Shooter

**Date:** Monday, September 10th, 2018, 6:30pm Happy Hour  
Speaker at 7pm

**Location:** Churrasco's, 2055 Westheimer, Shepherd Square Shopping Center (in front of Randall's)



Join the Vermont Commons Civic Association for the first Happy Hour of the 2018-2019 season! An informative seminar from the Houston Police Department will follow, providing common sense, proven instruction on what to do should you ever be faced with an active shooter.

Some points that will be discussed:

- An historic overview of Active Shooting in America.
- Active Shooter profile
- Police response
- Run, Hide, Fight
- Priority of Life Scale
- Emergency Response Plans Case Studies
- Developing your own unique Survival Mind Set

While acquisition of weapons is not encouraged, HPD does advise developing your own unique customized survival mind set for the world you live and work in. Much of the presented information is cutting edge and designed by the HPD, a law enforcement pioneer in this area. As of June 2014, more than 20,000 citizens of Houston received this empowering training.

### VCCA COFFEE

Meet at La Madeleine and share coffee and friendship with your neighbors. VCCA/Park Civic at La Madeleine French Bakery, 2047 West Gray. The first Wednesday of the month at 10:00am. Hope to see you there on September 5th!



## What VCCA Does For You!

The Vermont Commons Civic Association offers great benefits and many opportunities for you to get involved in your neighborhood for only \$40 annually! **Here's why you should join or renew today:**

**Meet & Mingle:** Social Activities abound year-round, from monthly coffees, happy hours, National Night Out, to our Holiday Party, Spring Picnic and many more!

**Stay in The Know:** Monthly newsletters deliver the latest news and happenings in the neighborhood, right to your mailbox! Nextdoor.com provides recommendations, advice, breaking news. Access more resources on [VCCAHouston.org](http://VCCAHouston.org).

**Get Educated:** Guest speakers focus on wide-ranging topics, from history to the arts to local government issues.

**Keep Safe:** We organize and support the Citizen's Patrol, the VCAA Constable Patrol and host regular visits from the Houston Police Department. VCCA also has a Graffiti Removal team – join us!

**VCCA Hearts Animals:** The Trap/Neuter/Release program protects and assists homeless cats in Vermont Commons. Posts on Nextdoor.com help residents find lost pets and facilitate pet adoptions.

**Yard of the Month:** Our monthly award acknowledges and encourages neighborhood beautification!

**Liaison:** VCCA works with city officials and other organizations to address our neighborhood concerns and learn more about services available to our community.

**Deed Restrictions:** VCCA deed restrictions preserve the special character of Vermont Commons. We also monitor builders' compliance.

**Support these great programs, meet your neighbors, and attend the parties, all for \$40! It's easy to renew or Join VCCA:**

Click on the PayPal button at [www.vccahouston.org](http://www.vccahouston.org), or put your check in the mail to: P. O. Box 130891, Houston, TX 77210

VCCA Membership is open to all residents, owners and renters!



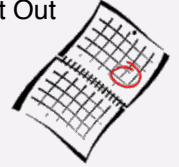
### WELCOME, NEIGHBORS

A pair of hawks built a nest and raised a family of two on Brun Street. The hawks were entertaining everyone as they rested on light poles and flew through the neighborhood. Bird watchers were on Brun, observing them at all times of the day. As you can see, they also appeared in back yards!

Send news, notices, photos, editorials, advertising requests to [nat.podo@gmail.com](mailto:nat.podo@gmail.com). Submissions are due the 15th of the month preceding the newsletter.  
*Natalia Podosinnikova, Editor*

## New VCCA Event Schedule for 2018/2019

- September 5 — Coffee
- September 10 — Happy Hour/Speaker
- October 2 — National Night Out
- October 3 — Coffee
- November 7 — Coffee
- November 12 — Happy Hour/Speaker
- December 3 — Holiday Party
- December 5 — Coffee
- January 2 — Coffee
- January 14 — Happy Hour/Speaker



*Mark your calendars!*

### VCCA OFFICERS 2018-2019

**Directors:** Jeanette Hix, Stephanie Taylor, Nina Westerfeld, Janet Meyer, BR Simon, Lillian Skogsberg, Ann Green Terrel

**Secretary:** Chuck Randall

**VP Deed Restrictions:** Andy Tallin

**Newsletter:** Natalia Podosinnikova

### CITIZENS PATROL

Citizen Patrol is a citywide volunteer organization dedicated to making neighborhoods safer by keeping an eye on suspicious activity and reporting it to appropriate authorities. In August, 11 patrollers totaled **173 hours** of driving and walking! That's an average of *6 hours per day* of volunteer effort to keep our Vermont Commons community safe. Thanks to all volunteers, and especially to **Elizabeth McKenzie** (41 hours), **Rob Fuller** (23 hours) and **Muhuri Sankar** (22 hours). Many patrollers combine their patrolling with activities like dog-walking, etc. If you are interested in Citizen Patrol, please send an email to David Hoyer at [davidhoyer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:davidhoyer@sbcglobal.net).







VCCA Yard of the Month



Be sure to stop by the lot on Driscoll St. to admire the beautiful sunflowers Lance Hack plants every year!

### Public Service Announcement

Please pick up your dog's waste! There is nothing worse than walking across your grass and stepping into dog poop. It would also be polite to deposit your dog waste in your own garbage can, rather than your neighbors'. Thank you!



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