

vccahouston.org

PO Box 130891

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February 2019

CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

Newsletter Published Monthly September — June
Vermont Commons Civic Association
PO Box 130891, Houston, TX 77219
Issue No. 92

VCCA Happy Hour

VCCA monthly happy hours are on every second Monday, September through June at Churrasco's, 2055 Westheimer, Shepherd Square Shopping Center. Join us for the next one on **March 11 at 6:30pm!**

HELP! HELP! HELP!



Imagine our neighborhood with graffiti on fences, street signs, electric boxes, private and public property...

Do you like this picture? Before volunteers took charge, this picture was our reality. However, according to the police, consistent removal of the paint from our streets led to a decline in graffiti activity. Those who had been faithfully volunteering over many years past are now pleading for others to step forward. Email hix@rmi.net to guarantee our neighborhood remaining free from unsightly graffiti marks in just a few hours a month.

VCCA Coffe

Share coffee and friendship with your neighbors on the first Wednesday of the month at 10:00am. VCCA/Park Civic at La Madeleine French Bakery, 2047 West Gray. Hope to see you there on February 6th!

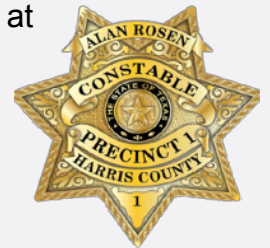
February Happy Hour & Speakers

*Cay Dickson and Constables:
Engaging in Conversation*

Date: Monday, February 11th, 6:30pm Happy Hour
Speaker at 7pm

Location: Churrasco's, 2055 Westheimer,
Shepherd Square Shopping Center

Cay Dickinson is an Executive Director at Texas Chapters of American Board of Trial Advocates, as well as a longtime VCCA resident and VCCA member.



Starting 6:30pm on February 11th,

she will share intriguing insights gained by attending the Constable's Citizens Police Academy over twelve weeks last year. Joining the discussion will be several constables from various sectors - administrative specialists, as well as the officers patrolling our very neighborhood. Cay will moderate the

conversation by engaging her experiences, the audience and the constables. VCCA residents attending will learn how officers handle cases from vice to environmental crime, and everything in

between. You will be truly amazed at all the areas of our everyday lives affected by their presence and dedication to their work. Bring your questions and comments, and let Cay and the constables entertain and inform you!



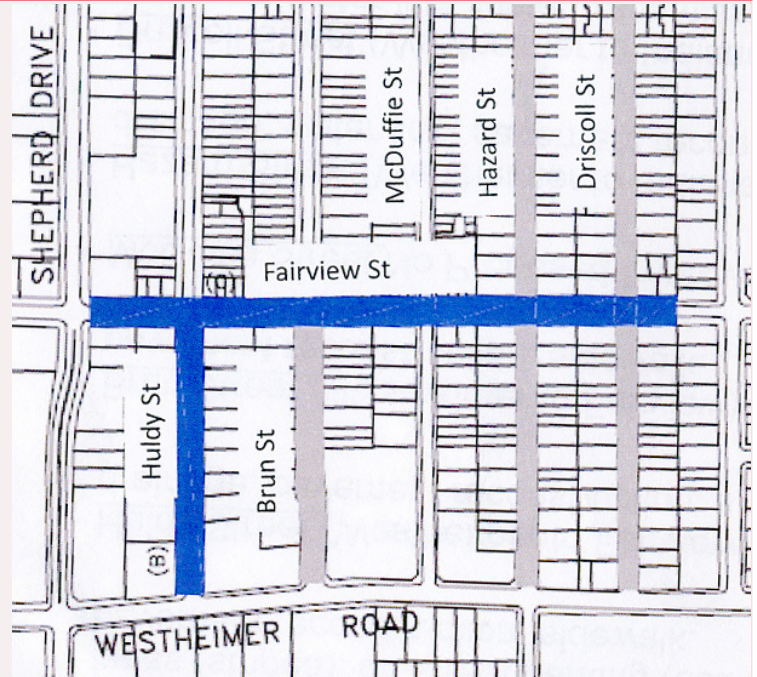
JANUARY HAPPY HOUR - FAIRVIEW CONSTRUCTION PROJECT UPDATE

The room was packed with attendees of the January VCCA Happy Hour. At least 50 people came to engage with the City of Houston representatives, who delivered a presentation about the upcoming reconstruction of Fairview from Shepherd to Driscoll. The bike lane issue became the sole new item added to the discussion (look for details in the [March 2018 newsletter](#) on our website).

The City of Houston anticipates starting installations of new sewage lines and sidewalks, one block at a time, in the first quarter of 2020. Affected roads will be repaired, and bike lanes will be added on Fairview.

There will be some street parking on Fairview, but only on blocks that are wide enough to accommodate it. Although on the agenda, the discussion didn't reach the subject of street lights and ramps.

The City agreed to look into residents' requests for safety barriers or speed bumps to impede traffic from coming into the bike lanes. As far as the request to add some 4-way stop signs along Fairview, they suggested making a service request with the city once the project is underway. Access all Houston's service request center resources at houstontx.gov/311. You can also submit a request by downloading the 311 mobile app, or dialing 311 (if outside Houston, the number is 713-837-0311).



STREET NAME	EXISTING WIDTH F-F	PROPOSED WIDTH F-F	DIFFERENCE
BRUN	40'	40'	0'
DRISCOLL	30'	30'	0'
FAIRVIEW (C)	27' 26' 37' 40'	32' / 48'	-8' to +5'
HAZARD	30'	30'	0'
HULDY (A)	24'	26'	+2'
HULDY (B)	35'	40'	+5'

Map of the affected streets

VCCA OFFICERS 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



Send news, notices, photos, editorials, advertising requests to nat.podo@gmail.com. Submissions are due the 15th of the month preceding the newsletter.

Natalia Podosinnikova, Editor



A young boy's innovative method is bringing the neighborhood together! Walk or drive by this section of Park Street between Indiana and Welch, and soak up some of the joy this beautiful message creates for all.



VCCA Yard of the Month



1610 Hazard St.

VCCA Event Schedule for 2019

- February 6 — Coffee
- February 11 — Happy Hour/Speaker:
Cay Dickson on Precinct One Constables
- March 6 — Coffee
- March 11 — Happy Hour

City of Houston PSA

It is the home owner's responsibility to clear leaves and mud out of the gutter in front of their property. The gutter is the area between the curb and the street. There are two important reasons to keep this area clean.

1. The collection of the debris impedes the movement of water toward the drainage grate. Water backs up and could cause flooding on your neighbor's property.
2. Moving water pushes all the mud and yard debris down the street and into the sewer drain, which eventually results in flooding and sewer stoppage.

CITIZEN PATROL

In January, Citizen Patrol volunteers completed a total of 207 hours of walking and driving patrol! Once again, they were watching out for Porch Pirates and other undesirable actors for an average of 7 hours a day! Thank you to all 11 volunteers, and especially to **Bob Costantini**, **Elizabeth McKenzie** and **Tom Hix**, who did 52, 49, 24 hours respectively. If you'd like to learn more about Citizen Patrol, or to become a volunteer, contact David Hoyer at davidhoyer@sbcglobal.net.

Vermont Commons

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drharvey@dentisthouston.com
2025 Fairview Houston, TX 77019
Phone (713) 528-4054
Fax (713) 528-1443



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PO Box 130891
Houston, TX 77219-0891

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