

vccahouston.org

PO Box 130891

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June 2019

## CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



Newsletter Published Monthly September — June  
Vermont Commons Civic Association  
PO Box 130891, Houston, TX 77219  
Issue No. 96

### Viva VCCA Vacation!

VCCA will be taking a break through July and August, so there will be no happy hours or newsletters during those months. We are looking forward to returning in September. Have a wonderful summer!



### Monthly Coffee

Our delicious tradition will continue through the summer! Visit with your VCCA/Park Civic neighbors at 10am at La Madeleine French Bakery, 2047 West Gray. Hope to see you there on June 5th, July 3rd and August 7th!



### ELECTION OF VCCA OFFICERS

Election of nine VCCA officers for the 2019-2020 year will be conducted at the June Happy Hour. The VCCA will continue with **six directors** filling the role of a president. The following **five candidates** have agreed to continue their position:

**Directors:** Jeanette Hix, Lillian Skogsberg, Janet Meyer, Ann GreenTerrell, Nina Westerfeld

**Treasurer:** Chuck Randall

**Deed Restrictions:** Andy Tallin

**Newsletter:** Natalia Podosinnikova

*Additional nominations can come from the floor at the June Happy Hour.*

### June Happy Hour & Speaker: Mayor Pro Tem Ellen R. Cohen

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

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



Houston District C Council Member and Mayor Pro Tem **Ellen R. Cohen** will address residents' questions regarding neighborhood and city matters at the June Happy Hour. As she is term-limited, and cannot run for the November election, this will likely be the last time she'll be making a presentation at a VCCA Happy Hour

& Speaker event. Hopefully, many of you will attend on **Monday, June 10th at 6:30pm** to thank her for the many times she brought information about Houston and our surrounding area to VCCA over the years, as well as for her service on Council.

During her tenure, which began in January 2012, she championed the Houston Equal Rights Ordinance, the elimination of the sexual assault kit backlog, the historic Pension Reform Package agreement, and many other initiatives to improve the quality of life of her constituents. Thanks to the support and participation from District C residents, Council Member Cohen's first two terms on Council proved to be both eventful and successful. This fruitful working relationship has resulted in over **15,000 constituent cases closed**, helping to address neighborhood issues from water main leaks to potholes to missed trash pick-up. We wish there was more space to cover everything in Council Member Cohen's illustrious career here, but we encourage you to read more information about her at [houstontx.gov](http://houstontx.gov).



*To take part in the discussion, please submit your questions and topic suggestions to Jeanette Hix at [hix@rmi.net](mailto:hix@rmi.net).*

## Welcome, A-Team

Effective immediately, Ann Ince et al passed the spray bottle and cleaning cloths to new graffiti removal team members! Kristina Ireland will be in charge of the western-most three streets of VCCA, while Nancy Higgs will manage the eastern half of VCCA. Sheila Armsworth will take care of the Park Civic Association.



If you see something - say something! You are welcome to email the addresses below, and to call 3-1-1 directly as well.

- ◆ **Kristina Ireland:** [einkorn72@gmail.com](mailto:einkorn72@gmail.com) (Huldy, Brun, McDuffie, running from Shepherd to Peden)
- ◆ **Nancy Higgs:** [nkmh54@gmail.com](mailto:nkmh54@gmail.com) (Hazard, Driscoll, and Morse, same north to south)
- ◆ **Sheila Armsworth:** [sarmsworth@comcast.net](mailto:sarmsworth@comcast.net) (Woodhead, Elmen, and Park, same)

## Happy Retirement!

From the bottom of our hearts, VCCA would like to thank **BR Simon** for her service as one of the six directors over the last two years. She has been a great asset as a director, and with her wonderful sense of humor she has kept all of us laughing. Have a great summer, BR!



### VCCA OFFICERS 2018 - 2019

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

**Treasurer:** Chuck Randall

**VP Deed Restrictions:** Andy Tallin

**Newsletter:** Natalia Podosinnikova



## VCCA MEMBERSHIP

September is VCCA membership drive month, so look for a notice about joining the VCCA and paying dues in your September newsletter. Many of our events, such as Happy Hours featuring great speakers, Picnic, Holiday Party, National Night Out, are attended by 75 to 100 residents. These wonderful activities is how most residents had met neighbors, made friends and found the real bond in the neighborhood. Please consider joining the organization; the membership is only \$40 a year!

## Flag Day - June 14th

Flag Day is a day for all to celebrate and show respect for the American flag, its long history, as well as its designers and makers. The flag is representative of this nation's independence and unity. Did you know that there is a right way and a wrong way to display the flag? To learn more about flag etiquette, and to avoid accidentally mishandling the flag, visit [vfw.org/community/flag-etiquette](http://vfw.org/community/flag-etiquette)



### VCCA Event Schedule for 2019

- June 5 — Coffee
- June 10 — Happy Hour/Speaker: Ellen Cohen
- July 3 — Coffee
- August 7 — Coffee
- September 4 — Coffee
- September 9 — Happy Hour
- October 2 — Coffee
- October 7 — Happy Hour
- November 6 — Coffee
- November 11 — Happy Hour

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*



## VCCA Yard of the Month



1513 & 1515 McDuffie

## Nearatown Meeting Update

Nearatown Association had its monthly meeting (fourth Tuesday) on April 23rd in the Cherryhurst Park Community Center at 7pm. The first speaker was Dr. Randy Mitchmore, chair of the Montrose Tax Increment Reinvestment Zones Board. The TIRZ now has a website ([www.montrosehtx.org](http://www.montrosehtx.org)) where you can find out more about this organization. Next was Mary Jane Smith, candidate for Houston City Council, District C ([www.maryjanesmithforhouston.com](http://www.maryjanesmithforhouston.com)). Also, there will be a Nearatown Forum for all the District C candidates looking to replace Ellen Cohen at The Montrose Center on Oct. 16th, from 7 to 9 PM, at 401 Branard Street, rooms 106 & 107 on the second floor. Finally, Metro is still taking comments on the METRONext plan at [www.metronext.org](http://www.metronext.org).

### CITIZEN PATROL

In April, 13 Citizen Patrol volunteers completed a total of 240 hours of walking and driving patrol. These efforts helped keep the neighborhood safe for an average of 8 hours a day, which is a record in recent CP history! Please thank your dedicated Citizen Patrollers **Robin Greene, Cathryn Gabor, Rob Fuller, Bob Costantini, Andy Tallin, Marilyn Fehrenkamp, Brenda Rojas, Jeanette Hix, Sankar Muhuri, Satavisa Sarkar, Tom Hix and Charley Kifer** when you see them.

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