

vccahouston.org

PO Box 130891

Houston, TX 77219-0891



September 2019

CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



Newsletter Published Monthly September — June
Vermont Commons Civic Association
PO Box 130891, Houston, TX 77219
Issue No. 97

VCCA Happy Hours

VCCA resumes our monthly happy hours every second Monday at 6:30pm, September through June, at Churrascos on 2055 Westheimer, Shepherd Square Shopping Center. **Please note, that there will be no happy hour in October.** Instead, we invite you to join us for the National Night Out on October 1st!

VCCA National Night Out

Date: Tuesday October 1st, 2019

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!

September Happy Hour & Speaker: Houston Police Chief Art Acevedo

Date: Monday, September 9th, 6:30pm Happy Hour
Speaker at 7pm

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



Art Acevedo was sworn-in as Chief of the Houston Police Department on November 30, 2016. Prior to this he served nine years as Chief of the Austin Police Department. A proponent of community policing, Chief Acevedo refers to the proven practice as "Relational Policing," an opportunity to forge a

relationship with each citizen an officer comes in contact with. Chief Acevedo believes good communication is vital for a successful community and steadily works to strengthen the bond between the community and its police department. The first Hispanic to lead the HPD, Acevedo brings a unique understanding to the concerns of the diverse communities in the City of Houston. Chief Acevedo holds various leadership positions with the Major Cities Chiefs Association and the International Association of Chiefs of Police.



VCCA COFFEE



Enjoy laughter, friendship, and delicious treats with your VCCA/Park Civic neighbors at 10am every third Wednesday of the month at La Madeleine French Bakery, 2047 West Gray. Hope to see you there on September 4th!

**ONLY 10% OF HOUSEHOLDS JOIN VCCA.
PLEASE JOIN. VCCA NEEDS YOUR HELP!**

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.

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, or put your check in the mail to: P. O. Box 130891, Houston, TX 77210

VCCA OFFICERS 2019 - 2020

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

Treasurer: Chuck Randall

VP Deed Restrictions: Andy Tallin

Newsletter: Natalia Podosinnikova



*Thank you to the many volunteers who come together to create our active and enjoyable association. Without the residents' assistance, VCCA would not be able to bring the fun year-round activities to the community. Those gathering at our **Volunteer Appreciation Happy Hour** on August 8th enjoyed a drink, courtesy of VCCA, in appreciation for their contributions. Those unable to attend were missed!*

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Did you know, that without enforcement of the VCCA Deed Restrictions, Vermont Commons would have four-story homes, four town homes on one lot, and homes built very close to the lot line? Watchful volunteers prevented quite a few developers from overlooking the deed restrictions. Several volunteers moved away, and now VCCA needs additional help. Please email hix@rmi.net if you can dedicate just several hours a month to help monitor our neighborhood.

VCCA Event Schedule for 2019

- September 4 — Coffee
- September 9 — Happy Hour/Speaker: Houston Police Chief Art Acevedo
- September 18 — Book Club
- October 1 — National Night Out
- October 2 — Coffee
- October 14 — Happy Hour/Speaker: Mayor Candidates Night
- October 16 — Book Club



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





2220 Brun St.

How VCCA Spends Your Dues

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Newsletter Printing | Office Supplies |
| Newsletter Postage | Graffiti-Cleaning Supplies |
| Annual Bulk-Mailing Permit | Activities Signage |
| P.O. Box Rental | Annual Web-Hosting Fee |

Additionally, there is the monthly fee to Churrasco's for the use of their wine room for the happy hours/speakers.

Finally, there are all the great activities, such as National Night Out, Holiday Party, Winter Party, and Spring Picnic. VCCA is very careful how your dues are spent, but as you can see, many items require payments through the year to keep the association running.

CITIZEN PATROL

In July, ten dedicated volunteers of Citizen Patrol completed a total of **174 hours** of driving and walking. That amounts to almost *6 hours per day* of volunteering in the heat of the summer! Thank you to all patrollers for their commitment to their community, in particular **Bob Costantini** who contributed 86 of those hours. If you'd like to learn more about Citizen Patrol, or to become a volunteer, contact David Hoyer at davidhoyer@sbcglobal.net.

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