

Lindale Park

The Hidden Jewel



THE OFFICIAL VOICE OF THE LINDALE PARK CIVIC CLUB
CELEBRATING 41 YEARS OF CIVIC PRIDE, 1979 - 2020

LINDALE PARK NEWSLETTER
FEBRUARY 2020

FIRST Quarterly Meeting of 2020!
7 p.m. Tuesday, February 25
Clubhouse / 218 Joyce St.
Join us! Great door prizes, too!

Join your neighbors, board members and the community for our first Quarterly Meeting of 2020 at 7 p.m. Tuesday, February 25 in the Lindale Park Clubhouse at 218 Joyce St.

Quarterly Meetings are open to all and don't require membership. However, if you'd like to join and have a vote, visit the membership sign-up table at the meeting. Or, pay or renew your membership dues online with PayPal at www.lindalepark.org. Navigate to the bottom of the *Civic Club* page and click the yellow "Buy Now" button.

We have an amazing line up of speakers on deck for our Quarterly, beginning with **Rep. Anna Eastman** representing District 148. Eastman is followed by **Council Member Karla Cisneros** who will discuss the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs housing plans in District H and the Houston Bike Plan.

Daniel O Candelaria Olvera, census organizer with Avenue, will talk about Avenue's campaign to make sure everyone in the neighborhood participates in the Census.

Officer Lucia Vieira, Houston Police Department (HPD) liaison for the Central Division, will share her proposal to create three new Citizen Patrol groups in the Near Northside, including Lindale Park.

Elia Quiles with UP Art Studio will discuss plans for a Mini Mural painted on the control box at English and Fulton Streets, followed by a 15-minute post-meeting workshop with attendees.

Lastly, Lindale Park resident **Diana Lerma Pfeifer** will give updates about the I-45 expansion.

- Camille Webb, LPCC Board Member / Newsletter Editor

Lindale Park's 2020 Calendar of Events

Ashes to Go on Ash Wednesday
Walk, bike or drive by!
February 26
Noon-1 p.m. & 4:30-5:30 p.m.
St. Alban's, 420 Woodard St.

Lemon Festival
May 2 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
St. Alban's "The Playground Church"
420 Woodard St.

Quarterly Meeting
May 26 at 7 p.m.
Clubhouse, 218 Joyce St.

4th of July Parade
July 4 at 10 a.m.

Quarterly Meeting
August 25 at 7 p.m.
Clubhouse, 218 Joyce St.

National Night Out
October 6 from 5:30-8 p.m.

Halloween Yard Judging
October 24

Quarterly Meeting
October 27 at 7 p.m.
Clubhouse, 218 Joyce St.

Holiday Party
December 8 from 6-8 p.m.
Clubhouse, 218 Joyce St.

Holiday Yard Judging
Friday, December 18

Letter from LPCC President

Dear Neighbors,

I write my first letter to you as president with one word in mind: community. The Lindale Park Civic Club (LPCC) is your community ally, and we strive to improve the quality of life for every resident, irrespective of whether they rent or own.

We focus on improving neighborhood safety, maintaining civic and cultural pride and hosting events where resident can mingle and build bonds with their neighbors. But to do this, the LPCC needs your help! That's why, in 2020, the board of directors is focused on strengthening the LPCC by growing membership, listening to their ideas, turning them into action and instilling a stronger volunteer spirit in our neighborhood.

In my relatively short time as president, I've heard, "Why join the LPCC? What exactly do I get?" Well, if you don't know, that's partly our fault!

Your membership dues support beloved neighborhood events like the 4th of July Parade, National Night Out and the Holiday Party, help maintain community resources like St. Alban's Playground and the LPCC Clubhouse and fund LPCC participation in community-preserving groups like Super Neighborhood 51, the I-45 Coalition, the Greater Northside Chamber of Commerce and the Chapter 42 "Lindale Park Minimum Lot Size" effort. Each of these events and activities benefit all Lindale Park residents, and they need your membership support!

A vibrant and effective LPCC also needs volunteers, and many roles require just a few hours each year. Join the LPCC "volunteer army" and serve as a block captain, newsletter contributor, board of directors' alternate – we have an open spot! – or join one of our many committees, such as *Parade* or *Neighborhood Beautification*.

If you already volunteer... thank you! You're amazing. If you're new to the LPCC and have questions... ask us! We're happy to provide answers. And, if you've volunteered in the past and had a lackluster experience... give us another try. I promise you something new.

The **2020 LPCC Board of Directors and Board Alternates** are composed of these residents whose thoughtfulness, diligence and willingness to serve the community is a testament to the character of Lindale Park. **Virginia Duke, Gwyn Guidy** (Vice President), **Ed**

Reyes, Camille Webb and **Linda Morales** are board members serving through August 2020. **Eugene Szymanski** (President), **Vicky Salinas Colorado** (Treasurer), **Nadia Heffernan** (Secretary), **Sylvia Cavazos, Diane Garcia** and **Manuel Maldonado** are board members serving through August 2021. **Kathy Gutierrez, Jaime Salinas** and **Dinah Massie** are board alternates.

Remember the board of directors can't do it alone, so please join the LPCC, share your ideas and energy and help us foster a greater atmosphere of community involvement and action in Lindale Park. And, when you see the blue-colored membership letter arrive in the mail, fill it out and send it back!

All the best,

-Eugene Szymanski, Graceland Street Resident, Homeowner & LPCC President

Beautification Committee News

Yard of the Month Winners

The final newsletter of 2019 was published before Lindale Park's annual Halloween and Holiday Yard-of-the-Month judging, so let's take a moment to congratulate the winners below.

All winners received a fabulous "Yard-of-the-Month" sign for their yard and either a candy-filled jack-o'-lantern for Halloween or a festive red poinsettia plant for the holidays!

And, thank you to all our neighbors who joined in the festivities – it was a treat to see all the decorations this year!

Halloween 2019 Winners

706 Woodard St. / Terri & Randy Kashdan
518 Gale St. / Ralph & Becky Morales
903 Avenue of Oaks St. /
Laura Alexander, Javier Velez & Family

Holiday 2019 Winners

911 Avenue of Oaks St.
618 Woodard St. / Joshua & Mom
814 Sue St.



I DID IT

I know many residents have seen me running at all hours around Lindale Park and surrounding areas. My name is Belinda Reyes, and I am a longtime Lindale Park resident and wanted to share my story with my neighbors.

On January 19, 2020, I reached my personal goal of completing my 20th Houston Marathon!

Running is a passion I've had for a very long time. I started running with my brother and my husband, Ed. My brother, a legacy marathon runner, passed away, and for the last three years, it has been a challenge for me to reach my goal with disappointments at the end. I know my brother would not want me to quit but to keep the passion for running alive.

I could not have done this without the support of my husband and my sister who completed her first half marathon and my family and friends. A co-worker said, "You completed your 20th marathon in the year 2020, so the next one will be 21 in year 2021." I just laughed!

See you on our wide streets of Lindale Park!

- Belinda Reyes, Woodard Street Resident

Wave at Your Neighbors

When was the last time you waved at your neighbors? If you're like me, it was earlier today.

Ever since my wife and I moved to Lindale Park, I wave at everyone as I'm walking, biking or driving around the neighborhood. I do this because I've always believed little acts of friendliness can help bring all of us together.

Neighbors help neighbors. It's something my parents taught me. We all know how true and important that is during major emergencies like Hurricane Harvey, but I'd argue it's just as important when there isn't a crisis, and it's just a normal, humid Houston day.

Being kind to one another throughout the year helps ensure there's no hesitation to help each other when we need it the most.

There's some science behind this idea, too. A paper in the *Psychological Science* journal last year showed that people who were acknowledged by people they walked by (like a friendly wave) felt more connected afterwards. Contrast that to people who received no acknowledgement and felt overwhelmingly disconnected and alone.

I don't think any of us want someone feeling alone in Lindale Park. There are new people moving into our neighborhood every day right now, and they should all feel welcome.

So, wave at your fellow Lindale Park residents, and let's make it the friendliest neighborhood in Houston.

- Michael Blunk, Sue Street Resident

St. Alban's Episcopal Church
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
 Feast before the Ash Wednesday fast!

5:00 – 7:00 PM Tuesday, Feb. 25
\$7.50/Adult (half-plate \$3.00)
Thank you for sharing this English Lenten tradition.

420 Woodard 77009 713-692-3080 Take-out available
 + Service of Imposition of Ashes: Wed. 6 PM; Español - 7 PM +

La Iglesia San Albán
Cena de Panqueques: Banquetear
 antes del ayuno de Miércoles de Ceniza

5:00 – 7:00 PM Martes, 25 de Feb.
\$6.00/Adulto (medio-plato \$3.00)
iGracias! por compartir esta tradición inglesa de Cuaresma

420 Woodard 77009 713-692-3080 Hay "Take-out"
 + Servicio de recibir cenizas Miércoles 7 PM; English 6 PM +

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<p>SHUTTLE</p> <p>\$4.00</p> <p><i>Round trip</i></p> <p>Maxey Rd., Monroe Park & Rides and West Loop Transit Center</p>	<p>SHUTTLE</p> <p>\$6.50</p> <p><i>Round trip</i></p> <p>North Shepherd Park & Ride</p>

HOW TO PAY

Download the **RideMETRO App** and pay for one or more rides at a time with Q Ticketing.

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Purchase Rodeo tickets at rodeohouston.com or text RodeoTix to 555888

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Don't Be a Victim of Bank Jugging Quarterly Security Tip – February 2020

Canadian Street resident Mike Bowlin was a victim of bank jugging five years ago. For that reason, Bowlin says he “rarely uses drive-throughs and never leaves a bank with an envelope in hand,” he says. Learn more about bank jugging courtesy of Officer Lucia Vieira, HPD liaison for the Central Division.

The term bank jugging is used to describe suspects who sit in bank parking lots and watch customers go in and out of the bank. The suspects then will follow the customers they believe are in possession of cash and look for the opportunity to burglarize their vehicle or take the currency from them directly by robbing them.

THINGS TO BE AWARE OF WHEN BANKING

- Occupied vehicles backed into parking spaces with clear view of the front doors of the bank,
- ATM machines or commercial drive thru lanes.
- Vehicles with dark tinted windows with little or no visibility of the occupants.
- Vehicles changing parking spaces for no apparent reason.
- Vehicles with multiple occupants.

HOW YOU CAN PROTECT YOURSELF

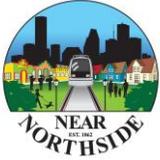
- Always be aware of your surroundings.
- Conceal money before leaving the bank.
- Never carry bank bags, envelopes, or coin boxes openly and easily seen.
- Be aware of anyone following you from the area of a bank.
- If you suspect that you are being followed or targeted, call 911 from your cell phone and keep the dispatcher informed of your location, your direction of travel and keep driving until a marked police vehicle can locate you.
- Do not leave or try to hide your bank bags or banking envelopes in your vehicle when you exit the vehicle at your next destination, even if it is your residence!
- Try to make your banking activities the last stop on your list of things to do.

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LINDALE PARK NEWSLETTER
MAY 2020

Quarterly Meeting Going Virtual

When – 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 26

Where – via Zoom in the comfort of your own home

How – Meeting ID: 869 4764 4613

Password: 154195

Why? Due to social distancing requirements surrounding the coronavirus pandemic, your Lindale Park Civic Club will bring the Quarterly Meeting to your living room, front porch, bedroom or whatever space you use to connect virtually to meetings. We will *not* meet at the Clubhouse.

Zoom is accessible via a desktop, laptop, Smartphone or tablet. If you use a Smartphone or tablet, you will be prompted to download the Zoom app before joining the meeting. Once downloaded, simply enter the meeting ID and password above to attend the virtual meeting.

Follow Lindale Park on Nextdoor and Facebook to find the direct meeting link to join from your web browser.

One Resident's Feat

Makes Lindale Park a Scenic District

I read an article that Heights Boulevard became a scenic district effective February 25, 1986, and I thought, *why can't Irvington Boulevard and/or Lindale Park be a scenic district?* So, I did the research to find out the effort requires a percentage of property owners to sign a petition requesting the area be designated a scenic district.

Then, I typed two petitions, one for Irvington Boulevard and one for the neighborhood. Over many evenings, I came home from work, "put the tennis shoes on" and started block walking.



I knocked on a door, explained what I was requesting and asked for a signature on each petition. A few residents had questions and wanted additional time to research, but most were willing to sign.

In fact, our neighbors already were used to "signing up" for neighborhood initiatives. Lindale Park volunteers had done many requests for signatures beginning with deed restrictions in the 1980s, petitions for getting bars closed and our "sound wall" along I-610.

After getting more than the required signatures, I submitted the petitions to a city department (I think it was the planning department) to verify the signatures matched the property owners.

A department employee drove out to visit the area. After visiting our neighborhood, he chose to increase the boundaries I had submitted. He stated later, he had never heard of Lindale Park before the petitions.

Neighborhood residents supported the Lindale Park neighborhood petition when it was presented to City Council for approval. The Irvington Boulevard petition was not presented for approval, since it was within the neighborhood boundaries.

Ordinance No. 86-1715 became effective September 30, 1986, when Lindale Park officially became a scenic district. Currently, there are 20 scenic districts within the City of Houston, of which Lindale Park is the 12th.

Single business signs within a scenic district have a maximum height of 14 feet and 100 feet square footage in size. Off-premise signs and spectacular signs are prohibited, and electrical signs have restrictions.

The boundaries are basically I-45 on the east, I-610 on the north, 125 feet east of Robertson Street on the west and 400 feet south of Cavalcade Street on the south.

- Virginia Duke, Eleanor Street Resident / LPCC Board Member

COVID-19 Rains on Our Parade

For the last 21 years, our community has taken pride in hosting an annual 4th of July Celebration on our nation's birthday. We are disappointed to announce that the Lindale Park Annual 4th of July Parade is cancelled due to coronavirus concerns.

In keeping with the spirit of Independence Day, we will have **Lindale Park's first July 4th Most Patriotic Yard Contest**. Three residences best displaying the spirit of Independence Day will be selected. Each winner will be recognized on Lindale Park's Facebook page and on Nextdoor. Details to follow.

Like you, we are grateful for the things we've been able to embrace during the pandemic. The humanity shown by many has been touching. It's more than just a cliché when we say, *we are all in this together!*

- LPCC Parade Committee

Termites Swarm in Lindale Park

Termites swarmed May 6 in our beloved Lindale Park home, so much so, that my husband and I feared we might have an infestation.

We looked at each other that evening, as we brushed off and shooed these small, winged flying insects from our arms and shirts and heard our daughter yell from the bathroom, "There are a bunch of dead termites in here!"

Termites were everywhere – our kitchen sink, floors, ceiling and tub. I barely slept that night. We figured we would have to have our house tented for treatment, and a quick Google search suggested it would cost thousands of dollars.

When I woke up the next morning, a newsfeed from Lindale Park's Nextdoor forum popped up on my Smartphone. (Nextdoor is a social media platform for neighborhoods.)

Much to my surprise and relief, dozens of residents were talking about termites swarming in their homes, too.

Graceland Street resident Jane Strohm took it one step further by contacting a pest control company to identify the insects in her home, as shown in the photo she provided above.

"The tech who came out to inspect my house, he immediately recognized them as Formosan," Strohm says. "This genus and species is apparently relatively new here. The tech also told me he'd been to eight other houses in this area in the past week.



"I found the termites crawling on walls, ceilings and floors that fateful swarm night," Strohm continues. "We had our screens open and porch lights on, so pretty easy for them to get inside."

Lindale Park resident Joe Figueroa owns a pest control company. Figueroa adds that Formosan termites are more destructive compared to other termite species.

"The species of termites that were swarming were Formosan termites, not the native Eastern Subterranean termite," Figueroa says. "Formosan termites reproductives (swarmers) are attracted to artificial light, whereas the native species swarm in daylight, usually in early spring.

"What you should know about Formosan termites is that they're highly destructive compared to the Eastern Subterranean termite," Figueroa continues.

We haven't had our house inspected for termites yet, but we hope they didn't stick around.

- Camille Webb, English Street Resident / LPCC Newsletter Editor

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Chalk It Up to Artistic Neighbors

With schools closed and more kids and families at home, Lindale Park residents are coming up with some creative ways to keep busy and bring beauty to our neighborhood through chalk art masterpieces on their driveways.

Graceland Street resident Lori Knapp even started an art challenge called the Driveway Art Project where kids could stop by to take and use a piece of provided chalk to create a masterpiece.

The rules were simple: *One piece of chalk; do not return chalk; use it up or take your piece with you. Rude or inappropriate drawings will be washed away. If it rains, we start again (or until all the chalk is used up).*

“It was so fun to watch,” Knapp says. “All ages joined in, as they were driving or walking or jogging by.”

Belinda and Ed Reyes of Woodard Street took care to celebrate moms on Mother’s Day with a loving message on their driveway.



The Hicks’ Family on Eleanor Street used painter’s tape to help them create a stained glass inspired work of art!

It’s encouraging to see how folks in the neighborhood are coping with being at home, through caring and colorful messages and art.



- Camille Webb, English Street Resident/LPCC Newsletter Editor



Congratulations to Andrew Russell Bowman who is a 2020 graduate of St. Pius X High School! Throughout his four years in high school, he has participated in baseball, basketball and rugby. He will be attending Arkansas State University where he will play on the university’s rugby team.

- Stefanie Bowman, Graceland Street Resident

Quarterly Security Tip – May 2020

Be Aware: When thieves are breaking into vehicles, they may take your garage door opener, which a lot of us leave in our cars. Then, the thieves come back later and get into your house through the garage, which they have opened using the garage door opener they stole. Maybe it’s a good idea to carry the garage door opener into your house, along with your keys, so it’s not stolen out of your vehicle.

- Officer Lucia Vieira, HPD liaison for the Central Division

Letter from LPCC President

Dear Neighbors,

It's my hope that this newsletter finds you and your loved ones safe and healthy. In these trying times, everyone is adapting to a new normal – physical distancing, home schooling, working from home – and the LPCC is no different.

Our mission statement is: *The LPCC is your community ally, and we strive to improve the quality of life for all residents by increasing neighborhood safety, maintaining civic and cultural pride, and organizing events where resident can build bonds with their neighbors.*

And, while we continue to work hard to provide these amenities, the way in which they're delivered will be much different than years past.

For example, two planned community volunteer events, the Storm Water Inlet Marking (SWIM) Program and the Irvington Boulevard Esplanade Renovation, will be organized once safe group working conditions exist, so keep an eye on social media for more information!

The SWIM Program, organized by the Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD), is intended to protect the Galveston Bay Watershed by raising awareness of the role of stormwater runoff drains. Lindale Park's storm drains are located along Fulton Avenue, Irvington Boulevard and Robertson Street at the intersection of each east-west residential street, and we've secured HCFCD funding for a project that will first clean and label ~50 drains along Irvington Boulevard. If successful, we plan to expand to the full footprint of Lindale Park.

The scope of the proposed Irvington Boulevard Esplanade Renovation Project is still being framed, and we want to hear your input! We envision safety and beautification improvements to elements of the Irvington Boulevard esplanade between Kelley and Moody Streets that include trash pickup, tree trimming and planting and landscaping and cleaning of the Lindale Park neighborhood "welcome signs" at the north and south ends of the boulevard. If you have more ideas and/or you'd like to get involved, send me a note.

Lastly, as a sign of the times and a first for the LPCC, our second **Quarterly Meeting will be held online at 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 26 on Zoom.** I plan to keep the agenda simple by first relating useful community resources and events and then designating ample time for resident feedback and commentary on whatever issues you decide.

Until we meet again, please continue to practice safe social interactions, respect and honor your neighbors and help those in need around you.

-Eugene Szymanski, Graceland Street Resident / LPCC President

Get Ready for Hurricane Season

While we are still in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic, now is also the time to remind ourselves about some other more common hazards: hurricanes and severe weather.

Hurricane season starts June 1, and meteorologists predict that this year's season will be above average. Houston also is at risk from other severe weather, which can happen at any time, such as the tornado that impacted areas just north of Houston in late April. Because of this, it remains important that we all keep in mind the four steps to emergency preparedness, so we can be ready for any sort of disaster or emergency.

1. Make a Plan: Think about how you and your family will respond to various types of emergencies, so you aren't scrambling when disaster strikes. Plans should include communications, meeting points and any special considerations that impact you or your family.

2. Build a Kit: Have a seven-day supply of non-perishable food, water and prescription medications. Don't forget about pet supplies!

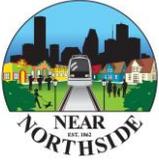
3. Stay Informed: Stay abreast of updated information from trusted sources, and be sure to sign up for emergency alerts from the City of Houston's AlertHouston program at www.alerthouston.org. During and after a disaster, official information from the City of Houston can be found on the City's social media channels and at HoustonEmergency.org.

4. Know your Neighbors: Houstonians know how to support one another and come together as a community. Be sure you know your neighbors, check on each other and help those in need after a disaster strikes.

Also, check out the City's Preparedness Guide, which can be downloaded in six languages from <http://bit.ly/HouPrepGuide>, and printed copies can be ordered from that site as well.

- Ian Feldman, Staff Analyst with the City of Houston/English Street Resident

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CELEBRATING 41 YEARS OF CIVIC PRIDE, 1979 - 2020

LINDALE PARK NEWSLETTER
AUGUST 2020

Virtual Quarterly Meeting + 2020 Board Elections 7 – 8 P.M.

Tuesday, August 25
Zoom Meeting ID: 854 2930 5834
Zoom Password: 555000

Due to social distancing requirements surrounding the coronavirus pandemic, the next Lindale Park Civic Club Quarterly Meeting will be held online via Zoom, so you can attend from your living room, front porch or wherever you decide to log in! We will not meet at the Clubhouse.

Zoom is accessible from a desktop, laptop, Smartphone or tablet. If using a Smartphone or tablet, you will be prompted to download the Zoom app prior to joining the meeting. Once downloaded, simply enter the meeting ID and password above to attend the virtual Quarterly Meeting.

Follow Lindale Park on our social media outlets – Nextdoor and Facebook – to find the direct meeting link to join from your web browser.

Please plan to login ~15 minutes prior to the start of the meeting as we will begin promptly.

Love Lindale Park Cleanup Coming in September

Did you see volunteers walking in our neighborhood during the first Love Lindale Park Cleanup Event on the morning of Saturday, July 11? Between 15-25 dedicated folks collected trash and recyclables and helped improve the appearance of our wonderful community. They gathered more than five city trash bins' worth of litter.

It was a fun, low-key, no-pressure event that put a few steps on our fitness counters and got us out of the house and seeing our friends and neighbors.

Soon, it will be time to do it again, and we hope you can join us. Here's the scoop:

LOVE LINDALE PARK



TRASH PICK-UP EVENT

- WHO:** You, we hope!
- WHAT:** Love Lindale Park Evening Cleanup
- WHEN:** 6:30-7:30 P.M. Saturday, September 12
- WHERE:** Check-in at the playground, St. Alban's Episcopal Church
- WHY:** Who doesn't love a clean neighborhood?

This time, we'll focus on the north/south streets – Fulton, Irvington and Robertson. So, bring gloves, a 'grabber' if you have one and a few trash bags (to fill one with trash, one with recycling). Partner with a friend or neighbor or even your favorite canine companion. Pick up trash and recycling and leave the filled, closed bags on corners. Others will pick them up.

Cold drink volunteers will come by and keep you hydrated as you go.

At the end of the hour, celebrate your commitment to our community! Snap a selfie and share it on Nextdoor or tag the Lindale Park Civic Club Facebook page.

If your area is already clean, find a storm runoff drain: Because water and trash flow to them, they always need work.

Let's take pride and ownership of the beauty of our unique "hidden gem" neighborhood!

- Dinah Massie with Love Lindale Park Committee

Letter from LPCC President

Dear Neighbors,

Building codes and deed restrictions are unexciting topics, but they are a necessary fact of life for any neighborhood that wants to preserve their unique spirit.

The City of Houston (COH) and Lindale Park Civic Club (LPCC) provide a complementary set of building codes and deed restrictions for our neighborhood, and every resident has the right to ask whether buildings adhere to these standards, whether they be new construction or structural changes to an existing home or garage. However, it's not reasonable for individuals to memorize each rule and/or know which COH department can help them in these matters, so the LPCC often works on behalf of residents to oversee and manage the enforcement of building codes and deed restrictions for our "Hidden Jewel" neighborhood.

This is not an easy task, since our deed restrictions are a patchwork of documents with small yet important differences between each neighborhood section and ambiguous words and subjective language in some clauses, causing highly divergent individual opinions on the intention of the clauses themselves and making them difficult to interpret for well-intentioned residents who want to "follow the rules" abidingly.

While the current state of Lindale Park Deed Restrictions reflects years of hard work put forth by many, many good-hearted LPCC volunteers, the difficulty in interpreting and enforcing them has led the LPCC Board of Directors to vote to make significant changes to our enforcement strategy.

Going forward, the LPCC will focus on enforcement of clearly defined building codes and deed restrictions, such as Special Minimum Building Line, Special Minimum Lot Size, single-family residence requirements and various COH ordinances – utility rights-of-way, as an example.

We will continue to require new construction and construction that includes structural changes to submit plans to the LPCC to check for adherence to these codes and restrictions. To demystify the process for residents, we will publish to the LPCC website a list of resources and complete workflow for residents to either advocate for

change on their own behalf or seek assistance from the LPCC.

This is a decision we spent months researching, debating and planning. To reflect our new focus, the LPCC has discontinued the "Architectural Review Committee (ARC)" and instated the notionally named "Neighborhood Preservation Committee."

We will address this topic in more detail at the August 25 Quarterly Meeting on Zoom. Until then, please continue to practice safe social interactions, respect and honor your neighbors and help those in need around you.

- Eugene Szymanski, Graceland Street Resident/LPCC President

Porch Pirates & Package Thieves Get Your Packages Delivered Securely

Since many packages are stolen off porches, here are six alternatives to getting your packages delivered securely.

1. Have your packages delivered to your office or workplace.
2. Have your packages shipped to a family member or neighbor's house, preferably one who's home during the weekdays.
3. Install a package delivery box near your front door.

They are available for under \$100 at Amazon.com.

4. If it's an Amazon package, have it delivered to an Amazon Hub Locker location. (See photo of one named "Shrimp" at the Chevron Texaco station near the Patton exit of NB I-45.)
5. Use a Postal Service location. The UPS Store on 19th St., for example, charges \$20/month for a box and will accept packages from any shipper.
6. Post office boxes are limited to only get mail shipped by the United States Postal Service.

(Of Note: The post office on Cavalcade Street will be closing in the future and will not be rebuilt.)

- Mike Bowlin, Canadian Street Resident/Newsletter Contributor



Editor's Note: *Lindale Park bids a very fond farewell to longtime residents Bill and Cherry Laucher. Affectionately known to many as Father Bill, Rev. Laucher has been the vicar of St. Alban's Episcopal Church since 2001. He and Cherry will retire to Fort Collins, Colorado, next month. We cannot thank The Lauchers enough for all the lasting contributions they've made in our neighborhood! Gwyn Guidy, a member of St. Alban's, shared this heartwarming tribute. Photo Credit: Mike Bowlin Photography*

Saying Goodbye to Father Bill

Saying goodbye to someone who is profoundly important to you can be difficult.

Father Bill literally changed my life. After years of working with him to improve Lindale Park and the Near Northside, in April 2015, I asked Father Bill to baptize me in the Episcopal Church. I was baptized November 1, 2015, also All Saints Day, and I have been attending services at St. Alban's, The Playground Church, ever since.



Father Bill began his ministry at St. Alban's in January 2001 and soon bought a house in Lindale Park. Before coming to Lindale Park, he had several interesting experiences. He was a high school band director in Pasadena, Tex., a pastor in Richmond, Tex., and a missionary in Honduras for six years. He and his wife, Cherry,

both felt the calling and moved their young family (two small children) to Honduras. They came back speaking fluent Spanish, rendering Father Bill a perfect fit for St. Alban's, which has a large Spanish speaking congregation.

Father Bill has contributed to our community in so many ways that it's hard to convey the magnitude of his influence. He has mediated tough meetings, served on the Lindale Park Civic Club Board, made the churchyard available for events like National Night Out and made lots of repairs to our Lindale Park Clubhouse!

But, there are two contributions to our community that are unforgettable to me.

At the first community service for Josue Flores, the 11-year-old boy who was murdered in the Near Northside, Father Bill was asked to speak and say a prayer.

After he and Father Thomas (Holy Name Catholic Church) had spoken, we all released balloons. The amphitheater at Marshall Middle School and the school grounds were full of Northside residents who were sharing their grief. It was a beautiful tribute and a new beginning for resident involvement in community affairs.

The second community contribution, and the most important to me, involves our Lindale Park Playground. I had been waiting seven years for an opportunity to apply for a KABOOM! Playground. Finally, the opportunity arose when I approached Father Bill for help.

Father Bill convinced the Episcopal Diocese of Texas to sign off on allowing a community playground to be built in the churchyard! He then helped me with the grant application, and after we won the award, he helped me establish the playground build committee. Our kids will enjoy this playground for years to come, and it wouldn't have happened without Father Bill!

So, saying goodbye to Father Bill is hard. He is my spiritual guide and my community partner. He and his wife have a special place in my heart. I will miss them enormously, but I'm also happy for them to retire to such a beautiful state and to live next door to both their son and daughter. They deserve the rest and the closeness to their family.

- Gwyn Guidy, Fairbanks Street Resident/LPCC Board Member

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In Loving Memory

Dr. Betty Jane Barr

September 10, 1945 – November 1, 2019

Dr. Betty Jane Barr, a lifelong resident of Lindale Park, passed away November 1, 2019, leaving behind many wonderful and lasting memories to the generations of engineering students she taught and mentored, during a 40-year teaching career with the University of Houston (UH).

“Dr. Barr was an excellent professor and fine person, always willing to help her students,” recalls Oscar Rangel, Lindale Park resident and one of Dr. Barr’s former engineering students. “She was both my Linear Algebra and Fortran professor, while attending the College of Engineering at UH. Little did I know that someone who



had helped me (and countless other engineers) achieve my personal goal lived only four streets from me in Lindale Park.”

Dr. Barr grew up and lived in the same house all her life on Fairbanks Street in Lindale Park.

“She lived her entire 74 years in the family residence in Lindale Park,”

says Lindale Park resident Virginia Duke, adding that Dr. Barr also was an active member of the Lindale Park Civic Club. “She was a member of the Civic Club and attended meetings for many years.”

While working as a professor at UH, Dr. Barr helped forge a path for female engineers. According to her obituary, she was “one of the first female faculty members hired in the college, Betty not only was challenged to develop a professional pathway for herself, but also to become a mentor to small batches of women who decided to pursue engineering as a career, charting their own pathways.”

To read the obituary, search for Betty Jane Barr at <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/>.

- Camille Webb, English Street Resident/LPCC Newsletter Editor

Patriotic Yard Decorating Challenge

Lindale Park held its first Patriotic Yard Decorating Challenge on – you guessed it! – July 4, 2020! Congratulations to **Red and Gloria Fernandez of Eleanor Street, The Garcia Family at 216 Woodard St. and Ralph and Becky Morales at 518 Gale St.**

Lindale Park Civic Club extends appreciation to all our residents for participating and showing off their best RED, WHITE & BLUE decor and to our judges Vicky Salinas Colorado and Diane Garcia!

Big THANKS to HEB Buffalo Heights for donating \$30 gift cards to our winners!

Important Numbers

You May Request to be Anonymous

See Something Say Something

HOUSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
(HPD)EMERGENCY: 911

HPD NON-EMERGENCY NUMBER:
(713) 884-3131

HARRIS COUNTY CONSTABLE PRECINCT 6:
(713) 274-3400

HARRIS COUNTY CONSTABLE PRECINCT 1:
(713) 755-7628

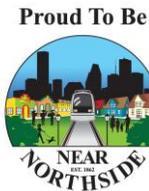
METRO POLICE DEPARTMENT: (713) 224-2677

CRIME STOPPERS OF HOUSTON
TIP LINE: (713) 222-TIPS (8477)



IF YOU SEE SOMETHING
CALL THE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES

Editor’s Note: *With the growing stresses related to the pandemic, your Lindale Park Civic Club board is actively searching for helpful community resources to share with our residents, such as the See Something Say Something flier above. We hope to compile a list of health/wellness; financial; and social, emotional and mental health resources to list in our next newsletter. Stay tuned...*



Lindale Park

The Hidden Jewel



THE OFFICIAL VOICE OF THE LINDALE PARK CIVIC CLUB
CELEBRATING 41 YEARS OF CIVIC PRIDE, 1979 - 2020

LINDALE PARK NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER 2020

LAST Quarterly Meeting of 2020!
7 – 8 P.M.
Tuesday, October 27
Zoom Meeting ID: 863 3806 1128
Zoom Password: 558958

Lindale Park Civic Club’s last Quarterly Meeting of 2020 once again will be held virtually via Zoom, so you can attend from your living room, front porch or wherever you decide to log in! *We will not meet at the Clubhouse.*

The agenda includes updates on neighborhood events and initiatives - Love Lindale Park Trash Pick Up; “Boos and Booze” fundraiser for Halloween Bike Patrol (see next article); Special Minimum Building Line (SMBL) effort in Lindale Park; SWIM Volunteer Event in November (TBD) and Holiday Security Patrol. Additionally, Officer Vieira with the Houston Police Department will provide updates on Near Northside public safety and law enforcement.

Follow Lindale Park on our social media outlets – Nextdoor and Facebook – to find the direct meeting link to join from your web browser.

during peak trick-or-treating hours on Halloween night.

Traditionally, Lindale Park gets an enormous number of trick-or-treaters. We expect no less this year, as Halloween falls on a Saturday night.

“As many of you know, Halloween is a very busy night in our neighborhood,” Jaquel says. “We get lots and lots of cute trick-or-treaters, and, in order to keep our kids and neighborhood safe, the LPCC hires HPD officers to patrol our streets with the help of donations. One hundred percent of the proceeds from this fundraiser will go toward covering this cost, so let’s get “Booing!”

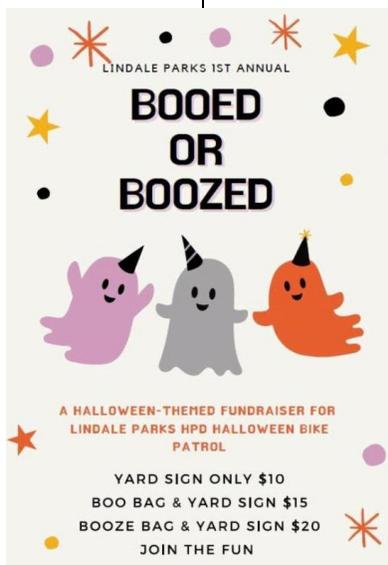
Ready to get Booing? Here are the ways to participate:

- **Yard Sign:** A fun way to announce to the neighborhood that *We’ve been BOOED!*
- **Boo Bag:** Intended for people with children, each bag contains a yard sign plus a fun little Halloween craft project inside a pumpkin bag.
- **Booze Bag:** Intended for adults, each bag contains a yard sign plus two plastic wine glasses and either a bottle of wine or hard seltzer.

To order, contact Jaquel with your name, the address of the person you’re giving to and a payment through either Venmo or PayPal (@Jaquel Andrews). For alternative ways to pay, email jac.andrews@gmail.com. Donations in any amount are welcome as well!

Boo or Booze Your Neighbor to Raise Funds for Halloween Bike Patrol

Have you seen the festive signs declaring, *We’ve been BOOED!* planted in front yards all over Lindale Park? Well, those are due to the fundraising efforts of Lindale Park resident, Jaquel Charlesworth, who approached the Lindale Park Civic Club with a festive way to raise money to pay for a Houston Police Department (HPD) Bike Patrol to patrol our neighborhood streets



“The Lindale Park Civic Club enthusiastically endorses this project and would like to sincerely thank Jaquel Charlesworth for generously organizing this fundraiser for the benefit of the entire neighborhood,” says LPCC President Eugene Szymanski. “Let’s rally around Jaquel to make this inaugural fundraiser a success, have some fun with our neighbors and help create a safer Halloween in Lindale Park!”

- Camille Webb, English Street

Shining the Spotlight on Local Businesses

Trigo's Mexican Restaurant

Trigo's Mexican Restaurant is an authentic Mexican family restaurant located on the corner of Fulton and Eleanor Streets in Lindale Park.

Established in 2014, Trigo's Mexican Restaurant is not only a great place for families to dine, it's operated by family... three sisters, Inez, Rocio and Maria. The extended family of the sisters helped start and maintain the restaurant, but the three sisters operate the business, waiting on tables, cashiering and overseeing the kitchen.

The restaurant is named for the three sisters' hometown, Los Trigos, which is located in Zacatecas, Mexico, and has a population of just over 100 people.



All dishes, including maize (corn) and harina (flour) tortillas are made from scratch. Trigo's is not a "fast food" restaurant as the cooks prepare the dishes "after you order." Only such things as their house-made caldos (soups) are cooked in advance. Of course, beer and frozen margaritas also are available.

The COVID-19 regulations have been tough on this small restaurant, but thankfully, they have been able to survive. Present pandemic hours are 7 a.m. – 3 p.m., seven days per week.

Trigo's can serve a large number of people, especially on the weekend for lunch on Sunday, and they get extra help to handle the busier times.

The restaurant also can hold small special events, such as wedding and baby showers, rehearsal dinners and small wedding receptions and even small quinceaneras.

Inez, Rocio and Maria hope that everyone enjoys their restaurant, and they plan to stay in the neighborhood for many years to come, especially since their older children sometimes help out.

Trigo's has offered one \$30 gift certificate to be given to one Lindale Park resident who sends his/her name, address and phone number by email to LP.contest@zohomail.com. One lucky winner will be chosen Tuesday, October 27 – just before the Lindale Park Civic Club Quarterly Meeting!

- Mike Bowlin, Canadian Street

Let's Partner Together for Safer Holidays

The busy holiday season is fast approaching! Are you concerned about the safety and crime in Lindale Park? If so, the Lindale Park Civic Club is asking for your help.

Last year with your support, the Lindale Park Civic Club offered our residents two weeks of security patrol during peak times in December. The LPCC would like to partner with you again to hire Houston Metro Coordinators, a private security company, for the holidays.

The cost for the patrol is \$4,500. We're asking our residents to help raise \$2,500 by November 30, and the Lindale Park Civic Club will cover the remaining \$2,000.

Donations in any amount are welcome! Checks should be made payable to Lindale Park Civic Club and may be mailed or dropped off at the Clubhouse (218 Joyce St., Houston, Texas 77009). If donating by check, please notate on memo line "Holiday Security Patrol."

To donate with a credit card, please go to our website to access PayPal www.lindalepark.org. If donating online via PayPal, please send a quick email message to vcolorado49@att.net.

Please donate and help keep Lindale Park safe this holiday season!

- Vicky Salinas Colorado, Canadian Street



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Phone 713-802-0794 | Fax 713-802-0388 |
info@starcopierinc.com

Letter from LPCC President

Dear Neighbors,

In this final letter of 2020, I would like to recognize many people who have contributed to the essential spirit of community engagement and neighborly behavior that so well characterizes Lindale Park. We began 2020 with big plans. And, despite very challenging social and economic times, made many of them happen!

I have been inspired by resident-driven initiatives like *Love Lindale Park* that encourages residents to clean litter from the streets during bi-monthly events (thank you Sara and Ethan Donnelly, Jane Strohm and Dinah Massie); the *Booed or Booze* fundraiser for the Houston Police Department Halloween Bike Patrol (thank you Jaquel Charlesworth); and the Lindale Park Mini Mural coming soon to the corner of English and Fulton Streets (thank you Elia and Noah Quiles of UP Art Studio and Council Member Karla Cisneros). And, thank you to all the volunteers who supported these initiatives!

I also want to thank frontline workers, including but not limited to, police and firefighters, first responders, healthcare workers, election and census workers, grocery and merchandise store employees, METRO workers, production and food processing workers, maintenance workers, agricultural workers and truck drivers. Anyone who has contributed to the wellbeing of those around them during difficult times... thank you!

And, thank you to the LPCC board of directors for working tirelessly through difficult situations to accomplish significant goals this year, including the introduction of major changes in our building code and deed restriction workflow and the introduction of the Neighborhood Preservation Committee.

Having acknowledged these contributions, our work continues. At our August Quarterly Meeting, we held elections for five open board positions to serve a two-year term (2020-2022). LPCC members re-elected four Board members (Kathleen Gutierrez, Gwyn Guidy, Ed Reyes and Camille Webb) and promoted a new member (Gavin Ellis) who previously served as an alternate. The new board then voted to welcome new resident Jeremy Scheid as a new alternate. There remains one open alternate position, and I encourage anyone interested to contact me to learn more about the role.

We also bid farewell to longtime board member, Virginia Duke, who resigned from the board after, in her own words, "serving on the board at least 30 of the 42 years that I have lived on Eleanor Street."

During her long tenure, Virginia was instrumental in creating positive change in Lindale Park, including renewing the Lindale Park deed restrictions in the ~1980s, obtaining the designation of Lindale Park as a Scenic District in 1986 (Ordinance No. 86-1715), securing COH Chapter 42 minimum lot size protections for all of Lindale Park, working tirelessly as a member of the Architectural Review Committee and leading countless other projects focused on retaining the historical character of our "Hidden Gem" neighborhood. It was a pleasure to serve with Virginia, and we welcome her continued contributions as a valued member of the neighborhood!

The latest board of directors has a healthy balance of longtime vs. new residents and veteran vs. novice members and represents a healthy cross-section of Lindale Park residents.

The board of directors doesn't work alone. We want to hear from you! What do you love about Lindale Park? What is important to you? What should the LPCC focus on in the coming years? Send us your thoughts by attending Quarterly Meetings, engaging with us on social media and writing us at info@lindalepark.org.

I hope we start 2021 with a renewed sense of purpose as a community of neighbors who respect, care for and defend one another no matter our personal differences.

- Eugene Szymanski, Graceland Street

LPCC Officers and Board Members	
Serving from 2019-2021	Serving from 2020-2022
Eugene Szymanski (President)	Gwyn Guidy (Vice President)
Vicky Salinas Colorado (Treasurer)	Ed Reyes (Board Member)
Nadia Heffernan (Secretary)	Camille Webb (Board Member)
Manuel Maldonado (Board Member)	Kathleen Gutierrez (Board Member)
Sylvia Cavazos (Board Member)	Gavin Ellis (Board Member)
Diane Garcia (Board Member)	
Board Alternates	
1. Jaime Salinas	2. Dinah Massie
3. Jeremy Scheid	4. OPEN



Some of our dedicated volunteers enjoyed refreshment by Canary Café after the cleanup.

Neighbors Pick Up Trash for Love of Lindale

The second *Love Lindale Park* Cleanup Event, held September 12, was an even bigger success than our first. At least 15 volunteers collected a pickup-load of trash along Fulton, Irvington and Robertson Streets.

After check-in at St. Alban's Episcopal Church, for one hour volunteers picked up trash along the three busy roads. They left their full bags at curbs for others in vehicles to pick up.

Returning to the church, we enjoyed lemonade and cookies donated by our friends at Canary Café, newly opened at Fulton and Canadian Streets.

Our next event will be at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, November 14. We'll check in at St. Alban's and go from there to clean up our Lindale Park streets.

This is our first effort after Halloween, so we expect to find lots of candy wrappers! Join us!

- Dinah Massie, Graceland Street

Native Plants Bring Color All Year

In his new book, *Nature's Best Hope*, Doug Tallamy argues that every homeowner can help declining insect and bird populations by planting native plants. His hope is that we no longer need to keep conservation and nature separated from the places we live.

Even in cities like Houston, we can help efforts by converting our gardens to native plantings. He calls the idea "Homegrown National Park."

Why are native plants so important? Well, much like the monarch needs native milkweeds to survive, many insects require specific native plants for their survival. Native birds rely on these healthy insect populations, particularly caterpillars, and so on up the food chain.

As a gardener, the switch to native plants also can be easier to care for, cost less and require much less input, like water, to keep the garden looking beautiful year after year. Natives thrive in our Houston climate and soils. Many of the perennials flourish for years, and the annuals self-sow.

The gardener's job can be as simple as keeping things trimmed. A diverse planting of natives can have year-round color and attract many beautiful pollinators including butterflies, moths, bees and hummingbirds. We can have the joy of a walk around the Houston Arboretum, in our very own yards.

Two options for fall color:

Turk's Cap (*Malvaviscus arboreus var. drummondii*) – semi-evergreen shrub, trim in February for fuller shape, does well in damp soils, part shade to shade, larval host to the scrub hairstreak and white skipper butterflies. I have pink and red varieties, which have both bloomed continuously since spring, attracting native bees and hummingbirds.

American Beauty Berry (*Callicarpa americana*) – deciduous shrub with gorgeous purple-mauve berries to attract birds, does fine in poorly drained clay soil, in part shaded to shaded areas.

For more ideas, visit the Native Plant Society's Houston Chapter at <https://npsot.org/wp/Houston/go-native/>.

- Sara Donnelly, Gale Street



Keep an eye out for Love Lindale Park events.