

UPDATE

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JOIN US Tuesday September 14th at 7 pm for our monthly meeting. Our speaker will be Mark Morrow of Montrose Public Library. There is also a potluck dinner in the beginning of the meeting. BRING YOUR FAVORITE DISH!

Last month, NMCA celebrated National Night Out in lieu of a monthly meeting. We had three different block parties throughout our neighborhood. The event once again provided a venue for everyone to meet their neighbors.

RACE FOR THE CURE BY ALLEN UECKERT

On October 2, 2004, the 14th Annual Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure 5K run will be held in Downtown Houston. The race will begin on Bagby and chart a course down W. Dallas to Waugh, and then back towards Downtown on Allen Parkway, ending at Elenor Tinsley Park. Historically, the race has been held in the Uptown Galleria area, however, due to growth of participants in the race, the event has been moved downtown. The Race will begin at Sam Houston Park at 8am and is expected to draw over 25,000 participants, including at least 1,500 breast cancer survivors. For those that wish to walk, your start time will begin at 8:30am.

The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation is a national organization established in 1982 by Nancy Brinker in honor of her sister, Susan G. Komen, who died of breast cancer at the age of 36. The Houston Affiliate was

established in 1990 and has continued to spread the life saving message of early detection. In addition to funding research, through the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation Award and Research Grant Program, the Houston Affiliate underwrites innovative breast cancer education, screening and treatment projects for the medically under-served in our community. Twenty-five percent of all moneys raised in Houston goes to the Research Grant Program, which awards all research grants for the Foundation. The remaining seventy-five percent is used for local education, screening, and treatment programs, which are funded based upon special community needs assessments conducted by the Affiliate every two years.

To date, the Komen Houston Affiliate has funded projects totaling over \$5 million in the greater Houston area. The Komen Foundation

is reaching thousands of women every day and is investing in a cure for the future.

To register for the race, you can sign-up online at <http://www.komen-houston.org>, or you can contact the local office for a registration package at 713-783-9188. The entry fee is \$25 for adults and \$10 for children under age 10. There are also volunteer opportunities for those that wish to participate, but may not wish to run or walk. You can view the volunteer opportunities at the address above and contact the office at the above-mentioned number to sign-up.

NMCA welcomes the Race to our neighborhood!

See page 5 for the Race Map!

METRO TRASH CAN PROGRAM BY BRIDGET JENSEN

Thanks go to the first three businesses that were recently contacted by NMCA and willing to participate in the METRO trash can program: Shurgard Storage Center (W. Gray and Waugh), X-Press Lube (W. Gray and Dunlavy) and Pier One (W. Gray and Woodhead). Though all three are willing to take responsibility for emptying a trash can at the bus stop in front of their businesses, METRO will have to determine if the stop gets enough use and trash to warrant having a trash can installed. Only sheltered stops automatically have trash cans, which are emptied by METRO employees. Other stops must show a need and have someone take responsibility emptying for the trash can.

If you want to take the initiative and find other bus stops and willing participants (usually businesses), the person to call at METRO is Sal, 713- 615-6220.

ESPLANADE PROJECT BY ALLEN UECKERT

For those of you that have not heard we are working on beautifying the median on Montrose from West Gray to Peden. Unfortunately, this is a long process but we have made some progress.

According to some of our residents, this is not the first time someone has tried to address this area. In fact, I was given some records that indicate that in the eighties the esplanade was beautified but only kept up for a certain period. As we can see, now it is really in need of some help. The fact that it was done once gives me inspiration that we can do it again!

We are still working on the first issue, irrigation. This is important so that whatever we plant (the easy and fun part!) will survive. Our investment in the Esplanade will be protected with proper irrigating. (Later we will address who will maintain etc.) We have learned that we do not need to get a permit since the system is already in place. This is very good news. Obtaining a permit can be a long and grueling process but we do not have to worry about this.

However, the system is not in good working order and we have received one quote for almost \$11,000. Economy Irrigation has proposed to redo and guarantee the system for ten years. Their contention is that this is the only way they can warranty the system in to replace it. This is bad news. After speaking with some of you we have agreed to get two more quotes and see what we can work in the budget. Some fundraising from local businesses that would benefit from this beautification is a good strategy in addition to our residents, etc. This is the first (and only company so far) that has quoted us. Economy Irrigation is the same company that initially installed the irrigation at median. The company is now owned by a different person so we have no real relationship with this business.

In the next week, we should be getting two more quotes and from there we can discuss if we want to do the entire median or only a portion to start with. Doing this project in phases may be more realistic. After this there are several city departments that work with organizations

like us to help beautify, and set guidelines for city property.

Many have expressed interest in helping. Please contact me at 713-523-8608 if you would like to help with this project. A meeting should be planned to look into this further by those interested in this project.

We will keep you posted on the quotes we get and hopefully we can find someone affordable that will have a better plan and stand behind their work.

Thanks to Carol and Allen for their help and support with the project.

YARD OF THE MONTH

BY JULIE WILSFORD

The Yard of the Month goes to Joey and Steve and 906 Pedan.

Check the "Yard Dog" artwork!



DOG PARK NEWS BY BRIDGET JENSEN

On September 14, Bridget Jensen will be going before Harris County Commissioners Court with over 100 signatures on a petition requesting that the County consider turning the vacant land that it owns in our neighborhood into a park for the primary use as a dog run. The County bought several acres on the south side of W. Dallas near Shepherd when it was planning to expand the Juvenile Probation Facility. As the plans changed, the county auctioned off the land where the Renior and several townhomes have since been built. The deal on the section of land on Newhouse Street (a short dead-end street between W. Clay and W. Dallas) apparently fell through since the county still is the owner of this vacant tract of land years later.

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713-252-3968

Attention Business Owners!!!

Want to include your ad in our newsletter? Membership to businesses is very affordable, at only \$36 a year. If you're interested in advertising and membership, please contact our President Allen Ueckert at:

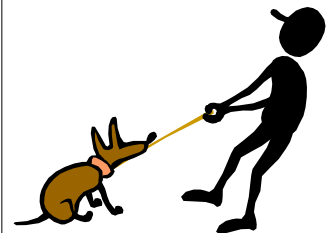
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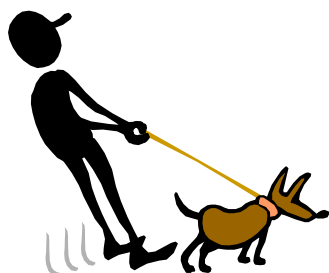
REFERENCES REASONABLE RATES SINCE 1989
BLOCK CAPTAIN, HYDE PARK UNITED C.A.
832-282-5462 (LINA)



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Dog Park
Continued from Pg. 3

As the density of residents in the area has increased, the need for preserving what little open space remains is more important than ever. Since the County already owns this land and recouped its money when the other parcels were sold at a profit, it makes great sense that this already paid for public land be formally made a public park. The idea that the land be used primarily as a dog run stems from the apparent need in the area (i.e. issues surrounding the non-official dog park at Allen Parkway and Montrose) and it is appealing to both dog owners and those who would prefer dogs to stay out of their yards and flowerbeds. There could be various options for the size and use of the park, but a dialog must first be initiated. If you would like to sign the petition, even after September 14, you may do so at the Neartown Animal Clinic, 1314 Woodhead.



SAVE THE SETTEGAST BUILDING

BY ALLEN UECKERT



NMCA is trying to save the Settegast Building on West Gray from demolition.

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, HISD currently plans to demolish the Settegast Estate Building on the corner of W. Gray and Genesee (near Taft) to make room for a surface parking lot adjacent to the proposed HSPVA building. The art deco structure was built in 1938 and design by Moore & Lloyd, the firm of noted Houston architect Harvin C. Moore. The building contains eight storefronts and was the home of Houston's Orange Crush bottling plant from the end of the Depression to the early 1950s. A ghost sign promoting the soft drink is faintly visible on an exterior wall.

Randall Davis, who has renovated noted Hous-

ton landmarks such as the Rice Hotel, remodeled the building in the late 1990s.

The NMCA board has voted to **oppose** the demolition of the building and has drafted a position letter to HISD, encouraging them to incorporate the building into the new HSPVA facilities. The building represents a tangible piece of neighborhood history and reflects the architecture of many of the homes in the surrounding neighborhood.

We are very excited to welcome the new HSPVA and Gregory Lincoln facilities to our neighborhood and certainly look forward to seeing construction begin. However, since so much controversy has surrounded

the historical significance of the proposed site, we think it would be a great opportunity for HISD to show that they are respectful of the neighborhood's rich history by building for the future, yet retaining this historic building as a symbol of the neighborhood's past.

We would like to discuss this issue at the next meeting and get everyone's input on the building before the letter is sent out.

Have an article, picture or a story you'd like to have included in the next Update? Please contact Susanna Evens via email at: psevens@sbcglobal.net.

North Montrose Civic Association

P.O. Box 130184
Houston, TX 77219

We're on the Web!
www.northmontrose.org

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Julie Wilsford 713-520-6433

Margaret Young 713-521-5982

The North Montrose Civic Association was formed over 25 years ago to promote civic affairs in the neighborhood. NMCA is a non-profit organization that depends on voluntary membership and participation. Included in this UP-DATE Newsletter is a form for residents to use to join or renew their membership. NMCA meets every month at the Museum of Printing History at 1324 W. Clay to present programs of interest to the local residents. The membership dues are very reasonable and will help defray the organization's costs to produce and distribute the Newsletter, to sponsor social events such as National Night Out and the Holiday Dinner and to organize and complete various neighborhood projects. Please join NMCA and just as important, become an active resident. See you at the next meeting!

**North Montrose Civic Association
Membership Form**

Mail to P.O. Box 130184, Houston, TX 77219

_____New Member _____Renewal

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ DATE: _____

E-Mail: _____

CHECK ONE:

Owner Resident _____ Tenant Resident, _____
Business _____ Non-resident Property Owner _____

Annual Membership Dues:

Individual Member -- \$15	Household -- \$20
Senior Citizen Individual -- \$6,	Senior Citizen Household -- \$9
Business -- \$36	Non-Rest Property Owner -- \$24