

SHARPSTOWN GETS A RED, WHITE, AND BLUE MAKEOVER FOR SUMMER

(See page 12)




**CRAIN PARK
 Grand Opening Celebration**

Join us for some summertime fun to celebrate the new and improved Crain Park, one of our neighborhood's great family-n-friends spaces!

There will be yummy food, entertainment, a bouncy house, games, an evening movie, and more!

**Saturday, August 12, 2017
 5pm-9pm
 Crain Park, 9051 Triola, 77036**

**Crain Park Grand Opening
 Saturday, August 12, 5–9 p.m. (see flyer on page 18)**



Thinking of Adding on to Your House? BEWARE!
 (see page 15)

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President's Message



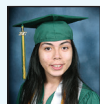
Why Does the SCA Adopt New Policies?

A resident recently asked why the SCA adopts new policies including those recently enacted on several topics such as solar panels and front yard fencing. There are two basic situations that lead to the creation and implementation of new policies for Sharpstown.

1. We hear from residents about concerns they have on neighborhood issues, such as commercial vehicles and large boats kept at homes. Working in committee, with the assistance of the Association's attorney, we develop policies that allow us to address these problems. When the policies are approved by the Board of Directors, they are filed for record with Harris County and become part of the governing documents for Sharpstown.
2. The Texas Legislature meets every two years in Austin and during these legislative sessions, bills may be passed amending Texas' property code which addresses the enforcement authority of civic and homeowners associations. The new Texas statutes often require a civic or homeowners association to create new policies to comply with the law, or to amend existing policies. Again, working in conjunction with our attorney, the Board adopts and files for record such policies as needed to ensure Sharpstown's enforcement efforts meet the State mandates.

Pat Menville

Local Valedictorian and Salutatorians Congratulations!



Jasmine Cervantes
Sharpstown High School—Valedictorian



Tianming Deng
Sharpstown High School—Salutatorian



Elsie Chen
Sharpstown International School—Valedictorian



Loi Lao
Sharpstown International School—Salutatorian



Jelani Kelley
Sharpstown International School—Salutatorian

2018 SCA Board of Directors—We Need You!

By Matthew R Cowan, Chair Nominations Committee

It is that time of the year where the Sharpstown Civic Association (SCA) is looking for a few good men and women to help keep the SCA running. It is because of volunteers that we have been able to build the SCA into what it is today. The result is an organization that, through its chartered activities of deed restriction enforcement and architectural approval process, plus provision of extra security and mosquito control, has enabled Sharpstown to maintain its value as a desirable place to live and raise a family.



The Sharpstown Civic Association is looking for members who are willing to voluntarily serve on the Board of Directors. Directors meet at least once a month for up to 3 hours for a business meeting. Other meeting(s) may include committee and the general membership meetings. Potential nominee must be willing to read proposals that come before the board and willing to discuss them via email or telephone.

The work of a Director is to listen to the issues brought before the board that may affect our neighborhood and be willing to make decisions on how to address those issues. One of the main areas that the SCA is involved in is upholding of the deed restrictions and appeals regarding architectural committee decisions. Other areas of interest deal with interaction with the community via outreach and host committees for events sponsored by the SCA.

In order to qualify, you have to be a current member of the SCA (dues have been paid) and not have any unresolved deed restriction/architectural violations. Also you will be asked to list/disclose any conflict of interests.

Those who are interested in becoming a board member should contact the SCA office to obtain an application that will be reviewed by the SCA nominations committee. The SCA office number is 713-789-2311. Or you can visit the SCA website to download the application. Applicants will be reviewed/interviewed and then a list of nominees will be approved by the board in September and put before the General Membership in November.

BACK TO SCHOOL!

**Slow down around schools
in the mornings and afternoons!!!**

SCAN Forum

The SCAN Forum:

Ask Questions, Make Comments, Be Engaged

by Jerry Alexander, SCA Board Member

The biggest complaint the SCA receives is concerns about neighborhood parking. “My neighbor parks his cars in front of my house when there’s only one car parked in his driveway!” and “My neighbor parks his car where I can barely drive in or back out of my driveway without hitting his car!” When Sharpstown homes were built they were designed for a family having one or maybe two cars, not as many as five. The issue has produced neighborhood parking nightmares and sometimes even neighbor on neighbor tensions. What can be done to resolve the issue? Well, you can’t enlarge the street, or park your car on the grass (city ordinance violation). You could increase the size of your driveway (need architectural approval), but it can be very expensive. Try talking to your neighbor. Maybe there’s a sensible solution that you both can agree. Use your driveway to park your cars as much as possible. Yes, it’s an inconvenience to move cars to let a family member out, but should your parking convenience be your neighbor’s inconvenience? Finally, there is no easy solution, but when you park your car think of how it will affect your neighbor and hopefully he’ll do the same.

Submit any questions/comments you might have by calling the SCA office (713-789-2311) or online (<http://www.sharpstowncivic.org/contact/>). Listed below are this edition’s five inquiries/comments.

- 1. My parents are driving to Houston in their RV to visit the grandkids this summer. Is it OK to park their RV at my house?** It is a deed restriction violation to park or store an RV at your Sharpstown residence. However, you can contact the SCA office and request permission to temporarily park the RV at your home. It is recommended the RV be parked in your driveway to eliminate any traffic issues and remove any problems your neighbors might have getting in or out of their driveways. The RV cannot block the sidewalk or fire hydrant access. This may require parking your cars on the street during your parent’s visit, but it’s the least amount of inconvenience for the neighborhood.
- 2. How can I join the SCA board?** Candidates must complete an application and agree to be interviewed by the nominating committee and Board. To be considered for election, the candidate must be a member each year of service on the Board. Candidates who have not paid dues or who have unresolved deed restriction violations and/or architectural control issues at the time of the Annual Meeting shall be ineligible to run or serve. Contact the SCA office to obtain an application.
- 3. My deed restriction violation has been resolved but the SCA continues to send me a bill, why?** The problem is that in the process of resolving your violation the SCA incurred costs trying to contact you and possibly spent money for legal fees. The homeowner is responsible for these costs. It’s important if you receive a deed restriction violation letter to contact the SCA

2017 Directory—Board of Directors

Pat Menville – Sec 2 713-705-2092 (cell), 713-771-8663 (home)	patmen47@att.net
Charmaine LeBlanc – Sec 5 281-687-1323 (cell)	cleblanc@libertyoffice.com
Margaret Mitchell – Sec 1 713-485-4360 (home)	mmitchell_mail@yahoo.com
Dale Davidson – Sec 3 713-819-5018 (cell), 713-774-0988 (home)	daleadad@gmail.com
Jerry W. Alexander – CCEE 713-591-9032 (cell)	jwalexander52@gmail.com
Matthew Cowan – CCT3 713-818-3114 (cell)	wrcowan1@hal-pc.org
John Cox III – CCEW 832-605-8533 (cell)	jwcoxiii@yahoo.com
Donna Fain – CCT3 713-818-9931 (cell)	dkfain@gmail.com
Pat Felder – Sec 2 281-730-6670 (cell) 713-774-3205 (home)	No email
Heather Handley – Sec 1 713-302-0475 (cell)	Lea84@hotmail.com
John Lorenz – CCT2 713-304-9466 (cell) 713-988-8539 (home)	jplorezn@att.net
Elizabeth Schooler – Sec 2 713-550-3351 (cell)	hdpmama@swbell.net
Paul Schooley – Sec 2 832-707-6117 (cell)	Babsschooley@yahoo.com
Matt Wine – CCT 3 713-397-9610 (cell)	mattwine@gmail.com

office right away. The violation is not going to go away simply by ignoring a violation notice so the longer you wait the more money the SCA spends trying to resolve the issue. Contact the SCA office so we can work together to resolve the violation.

- 4. Is there an easy way to check if my car’s airbags have been recalled?** Actually, it’s not the airbag but the airbag inflator that is the problem and it’s important that you check if your inflator is one of the nearly seventy million being recalled. To date, 11 people have died and another 180 Americans have suffered serious injuries. For Houston residents, the situation is really particularly urgent because prolonged exposure to high heat and humidity degrades the chemical propellant making the inflator more explosive and increases the risk of serious injury or death. To check whether your inflator is part of the massive recall, visit the website AirbagRecall.com and there you can enter your vehicle identification number (VIN) or your Texas tag number to learn if your vehicle has a defective airbag inflator. Don’t wait, do it today!
- 5. Can I buy a SEAL sign to put in my front yard?** Yes you can. The price is \$225 and the SCA will even deliver and put the sign in your yard. No delivery or installation fee charged. What a deal! Seriously, when a Sharpstown resident(s) pays their membership and SEAL security dues they receive a sign. So, it’s never too late to join!

Crime Stats 2017 Jan-June vs 2016 Jan-June

by Charmaine LeBlanc

Saying crime is up or down really depends on whether you've been a victim or had a close encounter with crime yourself because crime feels personal. How is our crime doing? The analysis of data is extremely important to get a bird's eye view of Sharpstown and our ever present battle with bad guys.

The chart is rather complicated but it boils down to this. The EXACT number of crimes, 158, has been reported to HPD from Jan thru June in 2016 and 2017. So has our SEAL patrol leveled off and is this the best we can do to bring our numbers down? The news is still good by looking at the trends in types of crime.

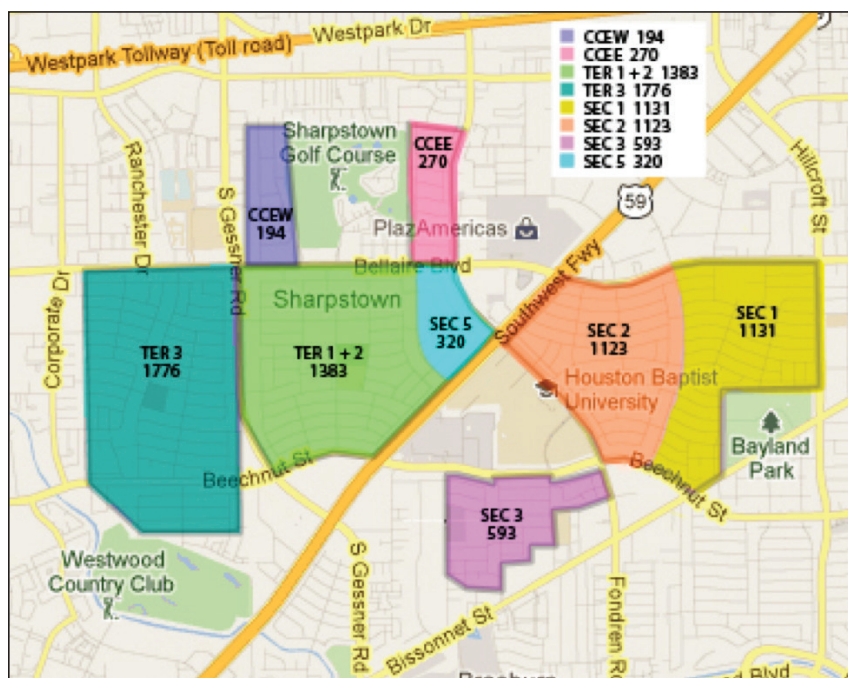
We have seen a dramatic increase in Thefts which follows the trend in all of Houston. **Thefts** are entry level, opportunistic and are the easiest to prevent. Many articles and meeting topics have been dedicated to this prevention, yet almost daily someone reports that their purse, computer, backpack or tools were stolen out of their vehicle where it was in view. Duh!!!! More education on this is needed. WE can help to bring this number down by prevention. Burglary is also significantly down from last year and mostly occurs on weekends and in the middle of the night.

The scary stats are the number of **Aggravated Assaults** that have increased and even though **Robbery** and **Burglary** are down from last year, these are still of a major concern because of the severity of the danger to human life. Being aware of your surroundings and alert when entering or exiting your vehicle is key or walking from a bus stop. These thieves will target an area where they are successful so don't make it easy for them. If they see that you are watchful and alert then they will look for someone who is not. Prevention is possible here too.

If Sharpstown had 158 reported crimes in 6 months, then that averages out to barely one house out of 6,790 per day being the victim of any kind of reported crime. That's not bad numbers Sharpstown! Between the efforts of HPD, SEAL, SCA, Southwest Management District, Citizens Patrols, and residents, we have statistically and literally made Sharpstown a safer place to live. Keep your eyes open and hey, let's be careful out there.

% of Crime in Section	Section	Total Crimes	Robbery	Burglary	Theft	Aggravated Assault	Rape	Murder
9%	CCEE	14	3	4	6	1	0	0
3%	CCEW	4	2	2	0	0	0	0
20%	S1	32	3	5	22	1	1	0
11%	S2	17	2	2	6	6	1	0
3%	S3	5	1	1	3	0	0	0
3%	S5	4	1	0	3	0	0	0
20%	T1-2	32	5	3	20	4	0	0
32%	T3	50	13	7	28	2	0	0
2017	Total	158	30	24	88	14	2	0
	Percent of Total Crime		19%	15%	56%	9%	1%	0%
2017 vs 2016 Trending			↘	↘	↗	↗	-	-
2016	Total	158	41	83	28	4	2	0
	Percent of Total Crime		26%	53%	18%	3%	1%	0%

What Section Is Your Home In?



TAKE ACTION AND OVERCOME JOINT PAIN



**Contact a
Memorial Hermann
Joint Center. And start
living pain free.**

Staying active is key to staying healthy. That's why Joint Center specialists use the most advanced treatments to get you moving again. From new prescription options, to minimally invasive surgical interventions, our affiliated body of experts is ready to help you find the best path to the life you want to live.

**Call 713.272.1888 or visit
jointpain.memorialhermann.org
for more information or to make
an appointment.**

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HERMANN**
Joint Center

ADVANCING HEALTH

SEAL Incident Reports

SCA D.O.R.—Wednesday, July 19, 2017 12:26:28 PM
OFFICER NAME: Capt James Eatmon
DATE: Wednesday, July 19, 2017

INCIDENT NOTES

2 TIME 11:50:00 AM

Gsat dispatch to 8511 Hornwood ref 1 white female and 1 hispanic or light skinned b/m wanting to check trees in back yard. Arrived at location spoke with resident about couple. Searched area and found couple in a white Chevy p/u with USDA on side of truck and federal gov. lic plates. stated they are inspecting citrus trees for canker. Also stated if homeowner refuses they move on. Code 4.



Note These USDA representatives were seen all over Sharpstown examining Citris Trees for a

INCIDENT NOTES Gsat dispatch to 9235 Sharpview ref elderly resident needs assistance bringing a tv that was delivered to her house inside her home delivery company dropped package on porch. Arrived and met with resident and carried package into house.

Zika Prevention

Weekly mosquito spraying will continue through October. Spraying happens between 9 p.m. and midnight. Be sure to empty any standing water in your yard to eliminate breeding grounds.



SCA D.O.R. —Sunday, June 25, 2017 2:59:09 PM
Officer OFFICER NAME: Capetillo Salvador
DATE: Sunday, June 25, 2017

INCIDENT NOTES AT 12:56 I Received a call from dispatch to go to 9xxx Langdon Lane to do a welfare check. The son-in-law was worried after he attempted to contact his father-in-law a few times the past few days and he had not heard from him. He had contacted the neighbor and they said that the resident seemed confused and speaking gibberish. The son-in-law lives out of state and he is worried about him and wants us to check on him. At 1:21 p.m. I arrived at location attempted to make contact nobody answered the door so I checked around the house no signs of forced entry or no noise inside the home. At 1:25 pm I notify dispatch that I was unable to make contact. I did let them know that there was a silver grand marquis in the garage no other vehicles on the property. As I was walking around the front there was an elderly man that open the door. I let dispatch know that I had made contact at 1:27 p.m. I told him that his son-in-law was trying to contact him and asked him if he was okay. He kept on repeating himself “ I tried and I kept and what happen” I asked him what his name is and he said “oh I tried and I kept and what happen”. He kept on repeating himself. I asked him if he was hurt? He said the same thing. I asked him what today was he said the same thing “ I try and I kept and what happened”. He was standing and alert. I also asked him if he fell down? he still told me the same thing. At first he did slur a little bit and then his speech cleared up. I told dispatch I think he had a stroke he had signs of it. Dispatch asked should we send ems? I said yes so they can check him out. I told the elderly man that I’m sending ems to come over to check him out to see if he’s ok. Then I told him that ems is coming to help. At 1:41 p.m. ems arrived at location I give him a little run-down with the situation was. They got him to go into the gurney that they had. They asked me for the son-in-law name and phone number and they got the information they needed from him. They did say they were going to take him to Hermann Memorial Southwest off of southwest Freeway and Beechnut. After they got him into the truck one of the paramedics and myself went inside the house look for an id and the key to the house, we had found both and we both exited the house and locked the door behind us. At 2:05pm I was cleared from call.

Note: Officer Capetillo undoubtedly saved a life when he/she responded to the elderly person in distress today. Perhaps we should acknowledge this formally, both for the officer’s sake and to create awareness of the District’s contribution to our community.

Editor’s Note: The incident reports presented here are verbatim and have not been edited.

Safety & Security



Message from HPD

Club Envy is Gone!—Citizens Engaged HPD and Action Taken (email from Captain Yasar Bashir, June 2, 2017)

Good Morning,

I just wanted to give you and Council Member Laster an update on the Envy Lounge Club.

The landlord is cooperating and has Terminated the lease.

According to the landlord, the tenant is moving out June 9th and they have a court hearing on the June 16.

We are working closely with County Attorney Rosemari Donnelly about this club. In addition to that, I have reached out to community members and informed them about this latest update.

Thank you.

Yasar Bashir, Acting Captain

Houston Police Department

Midwest Division

277 Regency Square Blvd, Houston, TX 77036



Positive Interaction Program— PIP Meetings Held Monthly by HPD for YOU!

Regular PIP meetings are conducted by HPD and held at our local sub-stations. They are for the public and allow us to meet our patrol and command officers. Local crime stats and concerns are discussed. Please take advantage of this great opportunity for all of us in Sharpstown to be more aware and active in our safety.

South Gessner Division—South of 59

3rd Tuesdays, 7pm

7675 West Belfort, 77071

Midwest Division—North of 59

3rd Wednesdays, 7pm

7277 Regency Square, 77036

Westside Division

3rd Thursdays, 7pm

3203 S. Dairy Ashford, 77082

Important Info

Important Numbers & Contacts

SEAL Security **713-338-2266**
 HPD Midwest Substation 832-394-1200
 Richmond Storefront 713-735.2062
 Ranchester Storefront 713-773-7070
 HPD South Gessner
 Substation 832-394-4700
 Gulfton Storefront 713-314-3171
 HPD Non-Emergency 713-884-3131

This newsletter is published bi-monthly by the Sharpstown Civic Association.

Editor Charmaine LeBlanc

Photographer John Cox, III

Trash Collection Schedule

Section 1 & 2

A

Garbage & Yard Waste: Tuesdays
 Heavy Trash: 2nd Tuesday
 Recycling: Every other Tuesday

Section 3, 5, CCT-1, CCT-2, & CCT-3

B

Garbage & Yard Waste: Tuesdays
 Heavy Trash: 2nd Monday
 Recycling: Every other Tuesday

Section CCE-E & CCE-W

C

Garbage & Yard Waste: Mondays
 Heavy Trash: 2nd Monday
 Recycling: Every other Monday

Heavy Trash Schedule

Month	Service	A Date	B Date	C Date
August	Junk Waste	8	14	14
September	Tree Waste Only	12	11	11

Safety & Security

Vacation Watch

Make a plan for vacations and weekend getaways. Who is watching your house while you are gone?

Did you know that one important service provided by S.E.A.L. Security is a complimentary vacation watch for your home? Just download and complete the form, <http://sealsecuritytexas.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/vacation-watch-form.pdf>; then call the dedicated Sharpstown S.E.A.L. hotline at 713-338-2266. An officer will check on your home daily to help make this year's vacation a relaxing getaway.



Southwest
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6918 Corporate Dr., #A5
(inside Sharpstown)
Houston, TX 77036



SOUTHWEST



DISTRICT



The Southwest District - *formerly Greater Sharpstown*, was created by the Texas Legislature in June 2005 to enhance the physical, social, and economic well-being of the southwest Houston community. The District is a political subdivision of the State of Texas and is a governmental entity administered by a nine-member, all volunteer Board of Directors. Projects and services of the District are funded through an 8 cents per \$100 HCAD valuation assessment to commercial property owners located within the ten square miles.

Homeowners are welcome to attend the District's monthly committee meetings on the 2nd Wednesday and the board meetings on the 4th Monday at Southwest District Office - 6588 Corporate Dr. #168 - 77036 *Inside Greatland Business Center*

SouthwestManagementDistrict.org

for more information please contact:

Alice Lee, Executive Director | ALee@SouthwestManagementDistrict.org | 713.501.8719

Deed Restrictions

Refresher Course—How To File a Deed Restriction Complaint

From time to time, Sharpstown residents want to report their concerns about violations of our deed restrictions. The process is both easy and secure. The online complaint form is found at <http://www.sharpstowncivic.org/committees/deed-restriction-committee/deed-restriction-complaints>. If you don't have online access, you may also call the office 713-789-2311 to report your concerns.

What you need to file a complaint:

- Property address—please verify the house number and street
- A clear description of the problem
- Evidence—all complaints must be documented by physical evidence such as a photo, video, audio recording, or activity log. If you do not have the ability to take a photo, a staff member or volunteer will be assigned to obtain one. Please remember, we don't live at your house so the problem may not be visible when we come by.

Common concerns about the process are:


- How do I know if someone else has reported it? **Don't worry about**

duplicating a complaint. If someone else has already reported it, we will combine the complaints and add any new evidence.


- I worry they will find out I complained about them. **Violation complaints are kept strictly confidential. A very limited number of persons have access to these files.**
- I am not sure what I see is a violation and I don't want to cause problems needlessly. **Complaints and evidence are analyzed by trained staff and volunteers to determine if there is an actual violation of our covenants before action is taken.**

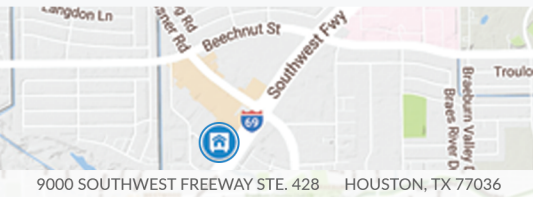
SCA Financial Consolidation

Period ending June 30, 2017		Period Ending June 30, 2016	
Revenue: (accrued)	\$190,479	Revenue: (accrued)	\$188,210
Expenses:	\$201,879	Expenses:	\$201,681
Change Net Assets:	(\$11,400)	Change Net Assets:	(\$13,471)
Total Assets:	\$403,750	Total Assets:	\$404,129



WHITE PICKET
REALTY LLC.

NEIGHBORHOOD EXPERT


ALAN HERNANDEZ
BROKER & DIRECTOR
832.422.6050
Alan@TeamWPR.com








9000 SOUTHWEST FREEWAY STE. 428 HOUSTON, TX 77036



WE HAVE BUYERS FOR (2) HOMES IN SHARPSTOWN

First Buyer is a CASH buyer and needs a teardown. Condition is NOT important.

Second Buyer is looking for a small home in original but livable condition with a good slab. Updates NOT important. Paying Full-Market Value.

Maria P, Homeowner ★★★★★
 I really want to give Alan and all his team 10 stars! Selling my home was very important to me and my family, and Alan made it his priority from the first time he walked in. He is Honest, has a lot of energy, he loves his job, and he will respect you from the beginning to the end.
 - Google Reviews

TeamWPR.com

Deed Restrictions

Deed Restrictions 101 On Living in a Deed Restricted Community: Part 5

by Shawn Robert McKee
Lambright & Associates

We're going to take a break from our regular narrative this time to talk about your legislature. Every couple of years, the Texas Legislature meets in Austin to pass laws. Does it surprise you to know that they only meet every two years for this purpose? The cynical among you will assume that this is because they need lots of time to raise money for their reelection campaigns, and you're not wrong. But as a result, there's a small buffer between legislative sessions that lets Texas attorneys cope with all of the new laws passed during any given year.

And thank God for that.

The Texas Legislature, bless its heart, doesn't really understand what HOAs are about, and as a result my life gets harder during every odd-numbered year, because there is no telling what sort of harebrained law the Texas Legislature will decide to pass, for the "greater good." And this year was no exception.

Spoiler alert—almost nothing of importance passed this year with regards to HOA laws. But the laws being considered were some of the strangest laws I've seen in two decades of practice.

SCA Associate Members

Gene Wu, State Rep. Dist. 137
Betty Townes, Remax Realtor
Sharpstown Rotary Club

Some examples:

- A bill allowing every owner thirty minutes each to speak at every board meeting
- A "religious display" bill with no limitations (say hello to 30 ft. crosses)
- A bill allowing five chickens per adult resident per lot

Happily, none of the above bills passed, and the bills that did pass don't directly affect Sharpstown in any appreciable way.

But that isn't always the case. Both 2011 and 2013 were banner years for HOA law, which tends to affect most Texas property owners whether or not they are part of an HOA. Much of the Texas Property Code applies to everyone—for property owners without an HOA to keep them informed of these changes, harm may result. Often the Legislature is granting additional rights to owners that they would have no way of knowing about if not for their HOA, and knowledge is power.

For instance, if you hadn't read this, you might not know how close we all came to the chicken apocalypse.

Membership—Join today!

YOU MAY JOIN OR RENEW ONLINE AT SHARPSTOWNCIVIC.ORG

Or Please Return This Form with Your Payment – Thank You!

2017 MEMBERSHIP & SECURITY

Membership Dues: _____ Security: _____ Total: _____ Check# _____
\$75.00 + \$150.00 = \$225.00

VISA _____ MASTERCARD _____ DISCOVER CARD _____ EXP DATE: _____

CREDIT CARD # _____ DATE: _____

NAME(s): _____ ZIP: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ PROPERTY ADDRESS: _____

PHONE (Primary): _____ Emergency Phone: _____

EMAIL: _____ EMAIL2: _____

One payment of \$225 is requested. Please contact the SCA office if other payment arrangements are needed. Thank you!

Community Happenings

Neff Early Learning Center Gets Help from Rotary and HFD

by Sheila Armstrong, Rotary Club of Houston

What do you do to a 53 year old building when it starts showing it's age? It is a beautiful building with a courtyard surrounded by red mulch highlighting the beautiful green plants. This building protects it's population of 700 visitors every week day from August through May. The visitors eat, talk, learn, teach each other, sing, dance, play outside and dream big dreams.. These visitors are the 4 to 7 year old students of Neff Early Learning Center, built in 1964!

What could be done to update the poles that support the canopies? Solution: paint!

Paint in vibrant colors of blue, red yellow, green and orange! But who would donate all of the expensive supplies? Cynthia, Manager at Home Depot, Pin Oaks location gathered the supplies and delivered them herself. She is so dedicated to "our" children! And John P. from the Home Depot in Pearland took the list of additional supplies needed and within 5 minutes they were on their way to NELC. John P. has helped us since 2013 do whatever it takes to help "our" children!

The students from the Sharpstown International High School plus their teacher painted the poles on a Saturday morning! They started the process of painting more than 100 poles. There were more poles to paint. The question: Who would donate their time to scrape, sand and paint the poles? Who was dedicated to the Sharpstown areas? Who could work in 100+ heat index degrees?

Jon King, a long-times resident of Sharpstown, a retired Fire Fighter and President of Sharpstown Rotary Club and Board Member of Houston Team First Book, enthusiastically said: "The Fire Fighters from Station 10!!!!!" Principal Gerardo Leal, Ed. D., Ms. Jones, Assistant Principal, plus Staff Members, 2 students and Jon King gave a "warm" welcome to the Fire Fighters! Seven Fire Fighters arrived, put on gloves and masks, sanded, wiped the poles, secured plastic at the bottom of each pole and raised a paint brush to salute each pole with paint! They showed calm, assertive energy on their determined faces and with each stroke of the beautiful paint, Neff Early Learning Center was being rejuvenated. There was a hush, while the poles were being painted. The only sounds were of the drops of sweat hitting the cement that supported the poles.

During this time, a Channel 13 cameraman showed up to film this remarkable event. The piece was shown at 4:00 PM the same

day. Cynthia Cisneros is Vice President of Community Affairs at Channel 13 ABC and we are grateful to her and her team for spreading the word of what is happening in the Sharpstown area.

There are: poles that still need to be painted and a vote to be taken for our Fire Fighters. And when NELC opens on August 23, 2017, the students will be greeted with vibrantly painted poles to excite and stimulate their brains for learning.

Thank you all who make NELC a nationally recognized school by DISNEY! Also to the hard working Principal Gerardo Leal, Ed. D., Assistant Principle, Ms. Jones, the teachers, staff members, the students, the Rotary Club of Sharpstown, the students from the Sharpstown International High School, Home Depot, Channel 13 and Houston Team First Book plus Station #10 Fire Fighters, including Captain James Donnelly.



Left to Right: Meredith Sawyer, Stephen Chin, Shawn Trejo, Andre Montenegro, Jon King, Captain James Donnelly, Garth Aegerter and Principal Gerardo Leal, Ed. D.

SHARPSTOWN DEMOCRATS

Meetings are held the 4th Saturday
of each month at 10:00 AM at
Bayland Community Center
We welcome you to join us!



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Community Happenings

4th of July Flag and Ribbon Project

Dear Reader,

Happy nonpartisan Fourth of July! In this rancorous political environment, America's birthday is a chance for people to leave the verbal fireworks aside, at least briefly, and understand and appreciate what they've got. And hopefully learn a little about it too. For instance, we celebrate American Independence Day on the Fourth of July every year. We think of July 4, 1776, as a day that represents the Declaration of Independence and the birth of the United States of America as an independent nation. But July 4, 1776 wasn't the day that the Continental Congress decided to declare independence (they did that on July 2, 1776). It wasn't the day we started the American Revolution either, nor the day Thomas Jefferson wrote the first draft of the Declaration of Independence. It wasn't the date on which the Declaration was delivered to Great Britain or the date it was signed. So what did happen on July 4, 1776? The Continental Congress approved the final wording of the Declaration of Independence on that date. And 40 years later, it became a popular date to celebrate on, especially since both Thomas Jefferson and John Adams died July 4. It wasn't until 1870 that it became a national holiday, almost a hundred years later. Isn't that interesting? Have a safe holiday next week!

HAPPY 4th of JULY!

David Garvin

Contributing writer, Voice of Asia
voiceofasiaonline.com
Email:voiceasia@aol.com



The SCA would like to thank the Southwest Management District, Alice Lee (Executive Director) for purchasing the ribbon material that we used to tie around the neighborhood on July 1st. If you see one looking sad or droopy, please retie it!

American Flags on Bellaire Blvd. for July 4 Holiday

by AJ Durrani

I bet you have seen the American flags waving in the wind on Bellaire Boulevard during the July 4 holiday as shown in the photo. Have you wondered who places these flags there? Well, an Asian American community organization named Houston 80-20 has been planting these flags along Bellaire for the past 16 years since 2001. They have raised funds from within their community for this effort and plant the flags themselves with help from some community volunteers.

Recognizing this community-minded patriotic effort and tradition, Southwest Management District and International Management District have decided over the past two years to join this worthwhile effort via assistance and help in planting by utilizing their landscape staff. With this effort, these American flags this year will be planted on Bellaire all the way from Dairy Ashford east to Fondren.

Strategic Planning and Updated Mission Statement

by Pat Menville

Reflecting its commitment to excellence in governance, the SCA began a comprehensive Strategic Planning program in early 2017. Utilizing the strategic planning program offered by ESCH (Executive Service Corps Houston), members of the Board and Sharpstown community undertook analysis of our existing programs and operations, and looked at where we want and need to be in Sharpstown's future.

We thank all the participants in our Strategic Planning process, and especially our dedicated and knowledgeable mentors from ESCH, A.J. Durrani and Raj Mashruwala, who drew upon their years of executive experience to help us craft a solid future.

As part of the program, a new SCA Mission Statement was created to better reflect the evolving vision of SCA's role within Sharpstown. Adopted several decades ago, the old statement read, "To preserve the property values, the environment and ecology of the Sharpstown subdivisions of the City of Houston, Harris County, Texas, and the surrounding area, and to promote the civic, cultural and general welfare of the residents thereof."

The new Mission Statement below was adopted by the Board of Directors on July 17, 2017 and unveiled at our July General Meeting.

SCA Mission Statement

"To serve and improve the Sharpstown community through enforcement of deed restrictions, architectural controls, enhancing our residents' safety, and promoting Sharpstown as one of Houston's most desirable neighborhoods"

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Community Happenings

Twistee Treat

by Andrew Le

Eat me. Drink me. You're not Alice stuck in Wonderland. But there is a 20-foot-tall chocolate-dipped ice cream cone on Bellaire Boulevard, complete with LED sprinkles. There probably isn't a better way to endure a Houston summer except with air conditioning or ice cream. Not a fan of ice cream, you say? Well how about a shake or malt? Want to beat the heat with a banana split? Too pedestrian? I present to you... the waffle ice cream taco!

The menu as you can see has almost everything for every taste. Let's start with the basic Twistee: Chocolate, Vanilla, and Strawberry. Dieters are not spared either. The basic flavors are available in Light, a no fat-no sugar version. Not quite 31 flavors but if you must, Twistees also come in Caramel, Coconut, Cotton Candy, Peanut Butter, Mocha, Orange, Butter Pecan, White Chocolate, Piña Colada, Amaretto, Praline, Banana, German Chocolate, Black Cherry, Rum Raisin, Cheesecake, Pistachio, Black Raspberry. Yes, that's an additional 18 varieties. It's the perfect excuse to keep coming back to try others.

So now that you've decided on a flavor, you can try four different kinds of cones alone. You can customize your waffle

cone with dips and additional toppings. And that waffle taco? It's an ingenious, devious concoction of folded waffle filled with your choice of ice cream flavor. We haven't even talked about shakes and malts—in all kinds of flavors. As for taste, Twistee Treat strikes a perfect harmony between tooth-achingly sweet and icier, bland, ice cream imposters. It has a very smooth texture that's not overly creamy either.

Twistee Treat also has a loyalty program as if you need another excuse to eat MORE ice cream. For every \$50 you spend, you get \$5 off your purchase and a complimentary Twistee on your birthday. As of now there are only three Twistee Treats in town, and so we should feel lucky there's one in our backyard. Twistee Treat is a Florida import and a newcomer to the Houston food scene, planning to expand to 40-50 locations over the next few years. So for now, that "It" fancy neighborhood can suck it. We have Twistee Treat.

Twistee Treat
8880 Bellaire Blvd
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twisteeeat.com
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Architectural Changes

This is costing residents \$\$\$. The approval of the City of Houston for a building permit does not mean you can ignore the Deed Restrictions or setback requirements. Call the SCA Office 713-789-2311 first and ask.

Notice—Before You Make Changes to Your Home:

In 2016, the violation most often reported to the SCA was Architectural Change without Approval. Every residential property in Sharpstown is governed by deed restrictions whether the owner is a member of the Association or not. Save yourself time, money and misery in 2017 by submitting all exterior changes for approval BEFORE you start work. Legal action to enforce architectural controls is costly and can result in a lien being filed on your property. Don't waste your hard-earned money on repairs or improvements that might not comply with deed restrictions-work you may be forced to tear down or do over. Submit your Architectural Change Request to the SCA before you start a project. That simple step will keep your project on track, within your budget, and keep you out of the courthouse.

Aviso—Antes de Hacer Cambios en su Casa:

En 2016, la violación más frecuentemente reportada a la SCA fue el Cambio Arquitectónico sin aprobación. Cada propiedad residencial en Sharpstown se rige por las restricciones de título, ya sea que el propietario es un miembro de la Asociación o no. Ahorre tiempo, dinero y problemas en 2017 enviando todos los cambios exteriores para su aprobación ANTES de comenzar a trabajar. La acción legal para hacer cumplir los controles arquitectónicos es costosa y puede resultar en un embargo preventivo a su propiedad. No pierda su dinero ganado con esfuerzo en reparaciones o mejoras que podrían no cumplir con las restricciones de escritura-trabajo que puede verse obligado a derribar o rehacer. Envíe su solicitud de cambio arquitectura al SCA antes de iniciar un proyecto. Ese simple paso mantendrá su proyecto en marcha, dentro de su presupuesto, y lo mantendrá fuera del palacio de justicia.



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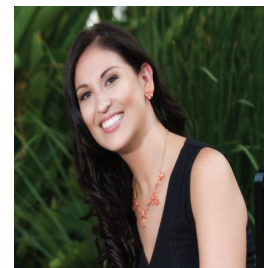
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Community Happenings

Asian Real Estate Association—AREAA Build a Community Day

ABC Day (AREAA Build a Community) Day in Houston was held Saturday, May 13. The Chinese Community Center identified two homes that need work done. Both were in the Sharpstown area. A contractor donated labor and materials.



An invitation for volunteers to “Come by and get your hands dirty” went out and much needed repairs were the result.

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Asian Real Estate Association of America, Houston Chapter President
Asian Real Estate Association of America, National Commercial Committee Chair

www.areaa.org/houston

Suits For Success

by Edward Pollard

Sharpstown neighbors,

Four years ago Edward Pollard co-founded a nonprofit organization called Suits for Success. Suits for Success targets high school graduating senior males at Sharpstown High School and puts them through a semester long life skills course. While in the the course students learn things they would not learn in a traditional classroom setting. Such topics as public speaking, resume building, interview techniques, personal finance, how to tie a tie, and others. At the completion of the program each young man gets a free suit, shirt, and tie...tailored to perfection for their graduation.

Recently, Edward was able to bring some of the students from Suits for Success to speak to residents at the Sharpstown Civic Association meeting. This was an opportunity for the students to engage the community and have them speak to how beneficial the program has been to their personal development. It was so rewarding to see the confidence and maturity of each student. These young men are extremely talented with an immense amount of potential and we are proud to have them represent our community. We look forward to supporting this worthy program in the future.



Pollo Riko

Columbian Style Rotisserie Chicken



7229 Fondren Rd.
11 a.m. – 9 p.m.
Monday–Sunday

Shared by Michelle Dyer on Facebook:

Those of you at the SCA meeting with the poets from SHS will probably remember this standout young man. My neighbor is a teacher, he gave me the following link which highlights one of the poets. I think it's really good and worth sharing. This guy is a talent.

<http://www.texasmonthly.com/the-edge/edge-youth-video/>



The Edge of Youth — Video

SCA Monthly Meeting

May and June SCA Meetings



Kerry Madole, our Speaker on Hurricane and Flooding—Also a Sharpstown Resident!



JROTC From Sharpstown High School



Houston Public Library Representatives from Walter Neighborhood Library on Clarewood



Be sure to go to the Library this summer.



Officer Daniels and S. Gessner HPD Officer visit the SCA meeting—invited everyone to attend PIP Monthly Meetings



Board Member Margaret Mitchell presents Cadet Captain Ashley Granados, a Junior at Sharpstown High School with a 3.5 GPA the recipient of the Daughter of the American Revolution award. Ashley has recently enlisted in the United States Army. Sharpstown proud of Ashley.




Charmaine, Pat and Pat—SCA Board Member humor!



Edward Pollard and the 2017 Suites for Success participants at Sharpstown High School



Bob Patterson, our Speaker from Southwest Fertilizer—Always a popular meeting for the SCA



CRAIN PARK

Grand Opening Celebration

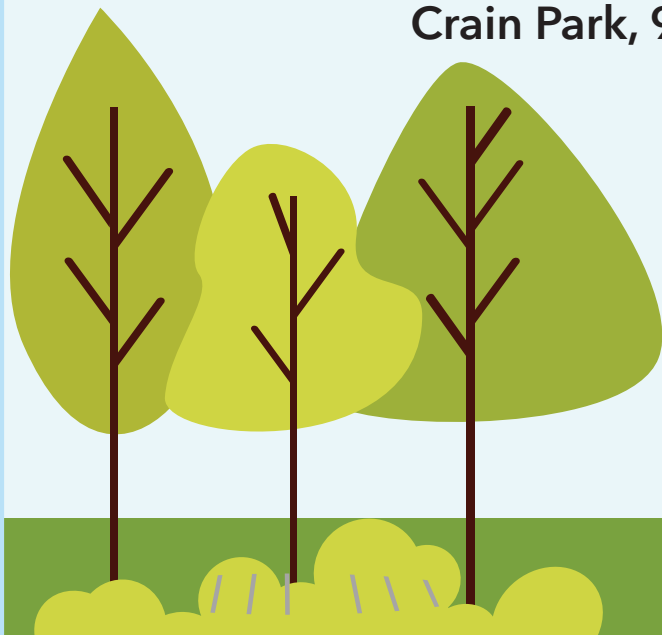
Join us for some summertime fun to celebrate the new and improved Crain Park, one of our neighborhood's great family-n-friends spaces!



There will be yummy food, entertainment, a bouncy house, games, an evening movie, and more!

Saturday, August 12, 2017
5pm-9pm
Crain Park, 9051 Triola, 77036

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The SCAN magazine is the official publication of the Sharpstown Civic Association Inc., a 501c4 organization.

The submission deadline for both advertising and editorial is generally the 4th Saturday of the month prior to publication. Delivery by U.S. Mail begins the second week of the month.



For Information on advertising in this publication—

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No Meeting in August!
September Meeting Info

Thursday, September 28, 2017
Bayland Community Center

Meet and EAT from 6:30–7 PM

October Meeting

Thursday, October 26, 2017



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• Monthly Membership Meetings
• Community Activities

**See form
on page 10!**

Monthly Payments Available - call SCA office to plan installments 713-789-2311