

# SCAN

The Official Publication of the Sharpstown Civic Association

Jan - Feb 2024



## SHARPSTOWN TRAIL

**A CONCRETE REALITY!**

PHOTO PROVIDED BY TIRZ 20



**SEE WHAT WE CAN DO FOR YOU**  
[SouthwestManagementDistrict.org](http://SouthwestManagementDistrict.org)

*We create dynamic economic development and exceptional well-being for the community and area businesses through programs & services...*

### **PUBLIC SAFETY & SECURITY**

business trespassing affidavits  
supplemental patrols » equipment & training  
security cameras » cadet cultural orientation  
coffee with a cop » multi-language PSAs

### **24/7 SECURITY DISPATCH**

**281.407.1160**

**FOR NON-EMERGENCY NEEDS**

**S.E.A.L. Security #TXPSBC15942**

### **BEAUTIFICATION**

graffiti & litter abatement » landscaping  
public art » identity signage

### **CULTURE**

funding for tours, events and festivals

### **UNIQUE ANNUAL EVENTS**

Liberty Fest - *celebrating Independence Day*  
March On Crime - *honoring first responders*

### **PROMOTION & PUBLICITY**

for restaurants, businesses and non-profits

**PARTNERSHIPS** with government entities on  
public health, small business development,  
infrastructure improvements and more...

## 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**713-724-4354**



### GOOD NEIGHBOR RULE #19

BE SURE THAT NO VEHICLE, EVEN IF TEMPORARY, BLOCKS THE SIDEWALK IN YOUR DRIVEWAY.



## ON THE COVER

### Attendees at recent groundbreaking...

The groundbreaking was held on Monday, February 26th with many neighbors and city representatives in attendance. Left to Right: David Hawes, Stephen Le, Jr., David Peters, Harry Shani, Kenneth Li, CM Ed Pollard, Kenneth Allen, HPARD Director, Mayor Pro-Tem Martha Castex-Tatum, Congressman Al Green, Welcome Wilson, Jr., Commissioner Lesley Briones, CM Willie Davis, Beth White, Pres & CEO, Houston Parks Board, CM Julian Ramirez, Alicia Dixon, CenterPoint Energy, CM Sallie Alcorn,

Cara Murray UofH College of Architecture and Design, Representative Gene Wu

See Page 14 for Story



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In the intricate tapestry of human society, community civic associations emerge as vital threads, weaving together the fabric of a neighborhood's identity and functionality. The Sharpstown Civic Association functions as a Civic Association with programs of interest to the community and as a Homeowners Association with functions dealing with security, deed restrictions and architectural controls. The importance of involvement with the Sharpstown Civic Association cannot be overstated, as it serves as a linchpin for communal cohesion, collective problem-solving, and the pursuit of shared interests.

At its core, The Sharpstown Civic Association acts as a conduit for community engagement. In a world where individualism often takes precedence, we provide a platform for residents to connect, communicate, and collaborate. Through regular meetings, events, and shared initiatives, individuals within a neighborhood have the opportunity to build meaningful relationships, fostering a sense of belonging and shared responsibility. The simple act of being involved can transform a group of houses into a genuine community, where neighbors transition from mere inhabitants of proximity to active contributors in a shared narrative.

A major function for the SCA is to serve as a collective voice for residents. We empower individuals to address common concerns and advocate for shared interests. Whether it's advocating for improved safety measures, better infrastructure, or the preservation of green spaces, a unified voice amplifies the impact of individual opinions. The association becomes a powerful intermediary between the community and local authorities, ensuring that the concerns of residents are not only heard but also addressed effectively.

One of the primary functions of civic associations is the facilitation of collective problem-solving. Neighborhoods face a myriad of challenges, from traffic issues to environmental concerns, and a civic association provides a structured platform for residents to collaboratively find solutions. Through brainstorming sessions, committees, and community-driven initiatives, residents can actively participate in shaping the destiny of their neighborhood. This not only leads to tangible improvements but also instills a sense of pride and accomplishment among community members.

The SCA thanks its members who have renewed their membership as well as those who have recently joined. We invite all those who live in Sharpstown to join as well. Those who are members invite your neighbors to join. As a goal for 2024, invite at least one or two new members to join. I look forward to a great 2024.

- MATTHEW COWAN  
SCA PRESIDENT 2024

## 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."

## MY NEIGHBORHOOD

ANNIE LOVE, PREVIOUS SCA BOARD MEMBER

In the heart of Houston, nestled between the bustling cityscape and the serenity of its residential streets, lies the diverse community of Sharpstown. Recently, our neighborhood has found itself at a crossroads, grappling with tensions between those with opposing views on our Civic Association. As we reflect on the path forward, it is crucial to celebrate the vibrant mosaic that defines Sharpstown.

Our community is a tapestry woven from the threads of various cultures, backgrounds, and stories. It's this diversity that makes Sharpstown unique, with a rich history that deserves both preservation and evolution. The strength of our neighborhood lies not only in its past but in the shared commitment to shape its future. Despite recent challenges, there is a prevailing spirit of camaraderie that we must nurture. The key to overcoming discord is recognizing that each voice contributes to the symphony of Sharpstown. Whether we hail from the old guard or are newcomers eager to make a mark, we share a common ground—the love for our community.

Amidst the historic landmarks and familiar streets, there lies untapped potential for positive change. It's time for us to join hands and channel our collective energy into constructive initiatives. By working together, we can foster an environment where good vibes and a sense of togetherness become the norm. Let's not forget the resilience ingrained in Sharpstown's history. Our neighborhood has weathered storms before, emerging stronger and more united. It's this very resilience that should inspire us to set aside differences and focus on what unites us—a shared vision for a thriving, inclusive community.


As we honor our past, let us also be architects of the future. There is much good work to be done, and by collaborating with the Civic Association and fellow residents, we can create positive change. From community clean-ups to cultural celebrations, the possibilities are endless when we pool our resources and talents. In the pages of Sharpstown's story, let us write a chapter that speaks of resilience, cooperation, and shared success. Together, we can overcome challenges, build bridges, and ensure that Sharpstown not only survives but thrives. In unity, we find strength, and in diversity, we discover the beauty that makes Sharpstown truly extraordinary.





## 2024 Membership Request

*Take Action - Support a Proud Sharpstown*

	
<b>2024 Dues</b>	
Membership	\$80
Safety and Security	\$170
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$250</b>

Sharpstown Neighbor,

I am reaching out to you as we always do this time of year to request your voluntary dues payment. It is \$250 for 2024... unchanged from 2023. Those that support by paying have always supported and realize the value that the SCA brings to their homes and neighborhood. To those - I say Thank You.

Now, to the rest of you, my hope is that you find a reason to believe and support in 2024. Where we live is important and worth the time and effort to watch over and keep clean and safe. This is what your dues will go towards. I am stepping down as president after many years. Matthew Cowan will be the 2024 president and I know he has all of Sharpstown's interests at heart. Please join me by supporting him with your dues payment and attend an SCA meeting or event. He and the rest of the board will continue to work hard for all of our sakes in Sharpstown – after all, It's Home!

Estimado Vecino de Sharpstown,

Me comunico con usted como siempre lo hacemos en esta época del año para solicitar el pago voluntario de sus cuotas. Son \$250 para 2024... sin cambios desde el 2023. Aquellos que apoyan pagando, siempre lo han hecho y saben el valor que la SCA aporta a sus hogares y vecindarios. A ellos les digo gracias.

Ahora, para el resto de ustedes, mi esperanza es que encuentren una razón para creer y apoyarnos en el 2024. El lugar donde vivimos es importante y vale la pena el tiempo y el esfuerzo para vigilarlo y mantenerlo limpio y seguro. Para esto es a lo que se destinarán sus cuotas. Dejaré el cargo de presidente después de muchos años. Matthew Cowan, ha sido elegido electo como presidente para 2024. Sé que se preocupa por todos los intereses de Sharpstown. Por favor, únase a mí apoyándolo con sus pagos de cuotas y asistiendo a una reunión o evento de la SCA en 2024. Él y el resto de la junta continuarán trabajando arduamente por el bien de todos en Sharpstown; después de todo, ¡es nuestro hogar!

Charmaine LeBlanc, 2023 SCA President

### WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES



Mosquito Spraying  
beginning April 1st  
thru Oct 31st



SCAN  
(Sharpstown Civic  
Association  
News)



Architectural  
changes  
enforcement



Safety  
Initiatives with  
HPD  
Precinct 4  
SEAL Security  
Patrol



Community  
events,  
Informative  
Website and  
Facebook page



Monthly  
community  
meetings-Vote  
at Annual Mtg  
for Board  
Members



Deed violation  
enforcement  
including Legal  
pursuit when  
necessary

Check out the website [Sharpstowncivic.org](http://Sharpstowncivic.org) and our Facebook page for a complete list of member benefits and other neighborhood information.

**Mailing address: SCA PO Box 36559 Houston, TX 77236-6559**



## SHARPSTOWN CIVIC ASSOCIATION

PO Box 36559 | Houston, TX 77236-6559

PAY ONLINE @  
[www.SharpstownCivic.org](http://www.SharpstownCivic.org)

MAIL PAYMENTS TO

January 1, 2024



In an effort to protect, preserve and enhance the quality of life, value of our properties and safety of all residents of the 9 sections of Sharpstown, we ask that you send in your \$250 payment now. These dues will allow important programs to continue.

**2024 SCA MEMBERSHIP DUES \$80.00:** Your membership dues provide resources for Office staff, Deed Restriction & Architectural Control Enforcement, Mosquito Spraying, Communication Programs-- including the SCAN Magazine, Esplanade Signs, and General Beautification including limited mowing of common areas.

**2024 SHARPSTOWN PATROL PROGRAM CONTRIBUTION \$170.00:** This allows for certified, fully-equipped security officers to patrol our neighborhood. Their presence and response give additional security to all Sharpstown Subdivision residents. Services include active patrol, vacation watch, and security alarm response.

All the best from the 2024 SCA Board of Directors

Check out the website [Sharpstowncivic.org](http://Sharpstowncivic.org) and our Facebook page for a complete list of member benefits



### YOU MAY JOIN OR RENEW ONLINE AT SHARPSTOWNCIVIC.ORG

Or Please Return This Form with Your Payment – Thankyou!



Membership Dues \_\_\_\_\_ Security \_\_\_\_\_ Total \_\_\_\_\_  
\$80.00 + \$170.00 = \$250.00

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ VISA    MASTERCARD    DISCOVER    EXP DATE \_\_\_\_\_    CVC \_\_\_\_\_

CREDIT CARD # \_\_\_\_\_    ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

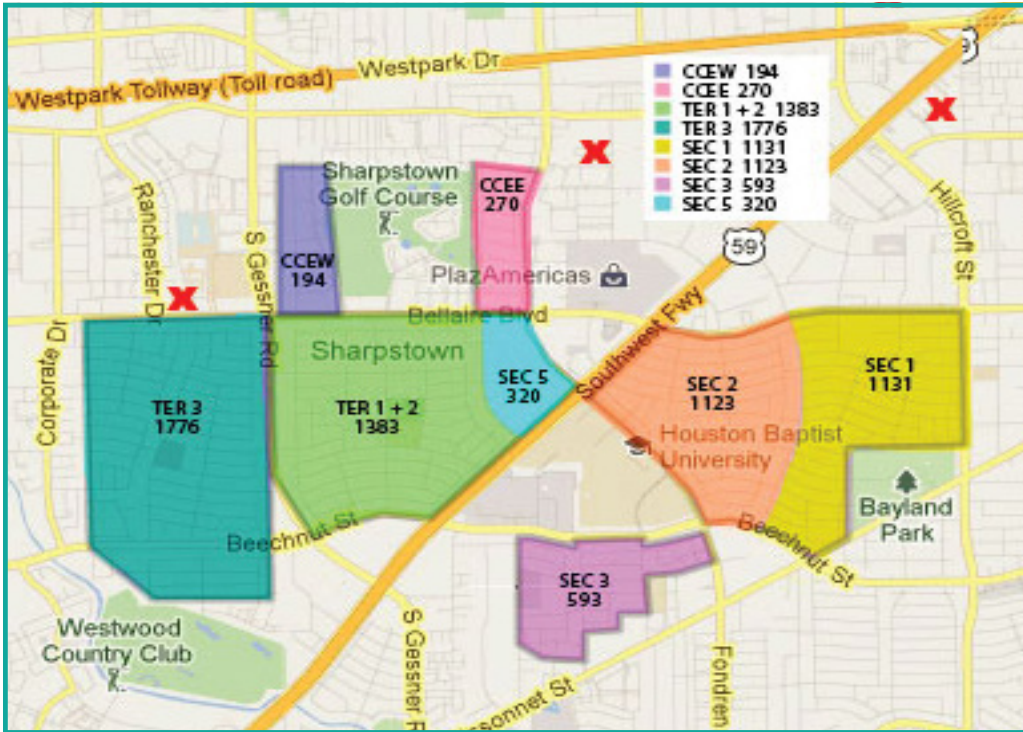
NAME(s) \_\_\_\_\_    ST ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_    PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

SECONDARY EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_    PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_    DATE \_\_\_\_\_

One payment of \$250 is requested. Please contact the SCA office if other payment arrangements are needed.



**SOUTH GESSNER SUBSTATION**

24 hours daily  
8605 Westplace Dr. 832-394-4700

**GULFTON STOREFRONT**

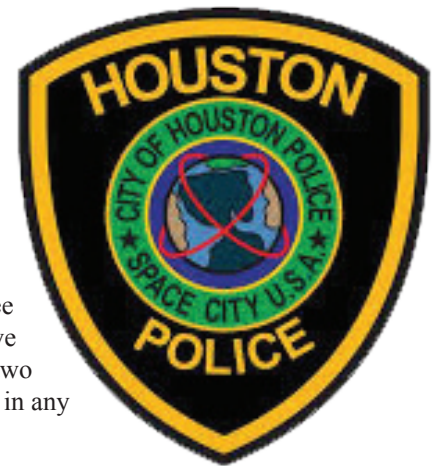
8am - 4pm Mon-Fri  
6227 Southwest Fwy. 832-394-2660

**MIDWEST SUBSTATION**

24 hours daily  
7277 Regency Square 832-394-1200

**RANCHESTER STOREFRONT**

11am - 3pm Mon, Wed & Fri  
9160 Bellaire, Ste. F 832-394-2780



**LOOKING FOR HPD IN ALL THE RIGHT PLACES**

Need a copy of an accident report? Want to talk to an officer about a problem in your area? You see something suspicious and want to let law enforcement know about it? In Sharpstown, you won't have to go very far. Our community is served by two HPD substations, South Gessner and Midwest, and two HPD storefronts, Gulfton and Ranchester. The officers located at these facilities are there to help you in any way they can, so give them a call or a visit if you need assistance.



SEAL Officer Vera has new ride!!

SPONSORED BY THE

SHARPSTOWN CIVIC ASSOCIATION

THIS HOME IS PROTECTED BY THE SHARPSTOWN PATROL

**S.E.A.L. SECURITY**

SEAL SECURITY SOLUTIONS, LLC  
713-338-2266  
TX PSB #C15942

**It is still a crime to park on your grass in Sharpstown. Please Don't.**

**ALAN HERNANDEZ**  
BROKER & DIRECTOR  
832.422.6050  
Alan@TeamWPR.com

RAMSEY TRUSTED

**SellMySharpstownHouse.Info**

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 BEGINNING TO END.

★★★★★

ASK ABOUT OUR "MULTI CASH OFFER - NO COMMISSION" PROGRAM

## SCA 2023 CRIME TOTALS - 14.7% DOWN FROM 2022

Month	Robbery	Burglary	Theft	Aggravated Assault	Property	Rape	Murder	Totals
January	4	3	11	5	8	0	0	31
February	0	1	4	1	0	0	0	6
March	0	1	8	3	2	0	0	14
April	0	4	15	3	2	0	0	24
May	0	4	14	5	4	1	0	28
June	0	3	12	4	2	1	0	22
July	0	8	11	5	3	0	0	27
August	0	3	13	5	3	0	0	24
September	0	3	9	1	5	0	0	18
October	0	2	11	0	7	1	0	21
November	2	5	13	2	4	0	0	26
December	0	6	8	3	4	0	0	21
<b>Totals</b>								
<b>2023</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>262</b>
<b>2022</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>307</b>

## DEFINITIONS OF CRIME TYPES

**Robbery** — the taking of money or goods in the possession of another, from his or her person or immediate presence, by force or intimidation.

**Burglary** — (breaking and entering) an unlawful entry into a building for the purposes of committing an offence. Usually that offence is theft.

**Theft** — the act of stealing; the wrongful taking and carrying away of the personal goods or property of another; larceny. Examples include ransacking unlocked cars, taking property out of open garage doors, taking a purse off a front seat of an unlocked car, taking a mower out of the back of a pickup truck.

**Aggravated Assault** — an attempt to cause serious bodily injury purposely.

**Property Crime** — destruction, damage, vandalism

**Rape** — unlawful sexual activity carried out against the will of a male, female, or person under age, or incapable of consent.

## VACATION WATCH

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 on our website, 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.



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WHEN AND WHEN NOT TO CALL 911



A STORMY NIGHT'S LESSON IN EMERGENCY WISDOM

So this happened ... and thank God it turned out okay for me, my neighbors, passing cars and even my tree. Though my uneducated instinct landed me on the right path, I wanted to share my newfound wisdom on who and when to call in case of an emergency.

On one of our recent very stormy nights, I was leaving home for the evening and discovered that my 60+ year old oak tree had lost a limb blocking both lanes of Sharpview. With lightning and high winds eliminating any immediate action, my only goal was to protect others from the road hazard. I called S.E.A.L security, requesting any available hazard warnings signs and planned to deal with it later. To my relief and delight, by the time I got back home the limb had been mostly cleared, and two hazard sawhorses were in place. S.E.A.L had contacted the appropriate city departments. So, thank you S.E.A.L and the city! I swept and blew the debris from the street that night with plans to use my chainsaw to finish the clean up the following day. Early the next morning the city was already there to do it for me. I was obviously elated and supplied a dozen hot Shipley donuts to the three team crew!

When telling news (or fielding texts) on my arborist adventure with friends and neighbors, I became acutely aware of the varied opinions on what I should/could have done differently. This prompted me to do a bit of research and I thought it right to share these takeaways on when and when not to call 911 during emergencies.

EMERGENCY TRIVIA:

Medical Emergencies:

- The UK introduced the first emergency number in 1937, while the US adopted 911 in 1968, developed by AT&T for quick dialing on rotary phones
- Approximately 80% of 911 calls come from cell phones
- You can text 911
- 911 can often determine your location
- Siri and GoogleHome can call 911, but Alexa cannot



713-721-PLUM (7586)

713-665-4997

# SAFETY & SECURITY

## WHEN TO CALL 911: GENERALLY ACCEPTED SITUATIONS

### Medical Emergencies:

- Excessive bleeding
- Loss of consciousness
- Signs of stroke/cardiac event
- Seizure
- Severe difficulty breathing
- Choking
- Drug overdose
- Life or limb-threatening conditions
- Severe burns
- Poisoning

### Situations + Crimes in Progress:

- Fire or smoke, home/building/business/car/wildfire
- Shooting
- Assault in progress
- Drowning
- Home invasion, burglary/robbery
- Incident with a deadly weapon
- Serious car accidents
- When moving the victim could cause further injury

## WHEN NOT TO CALL 911:

Calling 911 as a joke or without a real emergency is a crime.

### Avoid calling for:

- Tree branches blocking the road!
- Property damage
- Vehicle break-in
- Burglary when the villain has fled
- Car accidents with no injuries
- Minor illness or injury
- Pet accidents
- Power outage
- Information
- Directory assistance
- Injured or lost pet
- Abandoned vehicles
- Asking for directions
- Parking complaints
- Questions about tickets, warrants, court dates, etc.

## CONTACT INFORMATION FOR ASSISTANCE

911	Houston Emergency Line
713-338-2266	S.E.A.L Security
311 or 713-884-3131	Houston Police Department
832-394-4700	HPD Local Substation
800-525-5555	Department Of Public Safety (DPS) - Including non-emergency roadside assistance - answered 24 hours a day by a live operator
713-221-6000	The Harris County Sheriff's Office - Non-emergency line
311	Houston Fire Department - Non-emergency line
411	Directory Assistance - White/yellow pages
713-578-3000	United States Coast Guard - Coast Guard Air Station Houston
713-659-2111	Center Point Energy
1-866-908-9570	National Emergency Child Locator Center
1-800-985-5990	Disaster Distress Hotline
1-800-504-7030	State Bar of Texas - Legal Hotline

## SUMMING IT UP FOR YOU

To help the most people efficiently, call 911 **ONLY** in the case of an emergency.

If you do have an emergency, call 911 and **do not hang up**. Be prepared to **provide address, cross streets, specifics on incident**. It is also always a great idea to have someone meet the emergency personnel on street/entrance and escort them to site.

Additional note: please make sure your house number is visible on both your house and the curb in front of your house ...

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**RMP 16276**

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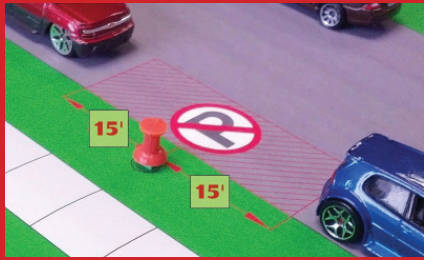
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HOUSTON, TEXAS 77008

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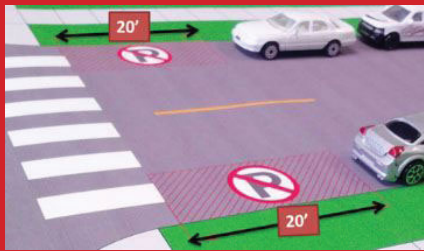
FREE CONSULTATIONS  
HABLAMOS ESPAÑOL

# PARKING LAWS

THESE ARE ACTUAL LAWS AND WILL RESULT IN REAL FINES



PARK AT LEAST  
**15 FEET**  
FROM A  
FIRE HYDRANT



PARK AT LEAST  
**20 FEET**  
FROM AN  
INTERSECTION



PARK AT LEAST  
**30 FEET**  
FROM A  
STOP SIGN OR  
TRAFFIC SIGNAL

DO NOT  
BLOCK THE  
**SIDEWALK**  
WHEN  
PARKING



DO NOT  
BLOCK A  
**DRIVEWAY**  
WHEN  
PARKING



PARK WITH  
THE NATURAL  
**FLOW**  
OF TRAFFIC



# DEED RESTRICTIONS

## DO YOU KNOW YOUR DEED RESTRICTIONS?

Remodeling your home? Adding On? Do you know your deed restrictions? Did you know that the Sharpstown Civic Association can look over your proposed plans for free before you start construction? We want to avoid deed restriction violations before they happen. Did you know that we have a 25 foot rear setback for the main structure? Did you know that there is a minimum percentage of brick that must be on your home? Did you know that you can't build in front of your building line? We want to help you! We want you to find out about possible violations before it costs you money and time. Several homeowners in the past couple years have had to tear down and/or modify their construction due to deed restriction violations. The City of Houston does not review deed restrictions when issuing permits. They require a signed affidavit acknowledging that the plans comply with your deed restrictions. This holds YOU, the homeowner, accountable for knowing and complying with your deed restrictions. We are here to help you. Call 713-789-2311 and explain what you want to do and Scott will help you navigate the process. All deed restrictions are available online at [SharpstownCivic.org](http://SharpstownCivic.org)

## ARCHITECTURAL FEE SCHEDULE UPDATED

Below are the fees charged for review of exterior changes to your home. These are the more commonly received requests and account for the costs involved in plan review. This fee schedule, along with the Architectural Change Request, can be found on our website [sharpstowncivic.org](http://sharpstowncivic.org)

•Paint/Siding	\$25.00
•Roof	\$25.00
•Fence	\$25.00
•Windows	\$25.00
•Gutters	\$25.00
•Garage Doors	\$25.00
•Garage Conversion	\$50.00
•Driveway Alterations	\$100.00
•Carport	\$100.00
•Outbuilding/Shed	\$50.00
•Patio / Patio Roof	\$50.00
•Pool	\$100.00
•Addition to House	\$250.00
•Generators/Solar Panels	\$25.00

## GOOD NEIGHBOR RULE #39

PLASTIC GROCERY BAGS GO IN  
THE TRASH, NOT THE RECYCLE  
BIN.



# SAVE THE DATE

## HCS, SCA AND HCU - KEEP SHARPSTOWN BEAUTIFUL

HCU, SCA and SPA team up for Keep Houston Beautiful Day on Saturday April 6th from 8am until Noon. Call Scott at the SCA office if you need help with a project or want to volunteer. Saturday, April 6th 8:00am - Noon



**NEXT  
SCA  
SHRED  
DAY**  
**5/11/24**  
**SCA OFFICE AT  
6815 REDDING RD  
77036  
9AM - NOON**

## PLANT SWAP

Hosted by the Sharpstown Parks Alliance (SPA) and Urban Harvest, the Sharpstown Earth Day Plant Swap returns to Lansdale Pavilion on Saturday, April 20th. Check-in begins at 8:30 and the swap will run from 9 to 11 am.

Please go to our website ([www.sharpstownparks.org](http://www.sharpstownparks.org)) for more information about how to register, prepare your plants and what items you can include. Along with plants (annuals, perennials, herbs, indoor plants and small shrubs), we will also welcome garden tools, books, pots and containers as part of the swap. Questions? Send an email to: [info@sharpstownparks.org](mailto:info@sharpstownparks.org).

Parking is plentiful – street and parking lot. Volunteers will be on hand to help transport your plants to and from the site. After check-in, you will be able to visit various displays set up by supporters including Urban Harvest, Trees for Houston and other organizations.

See you at the plant swap!

## Sharpstown Earth Day Plant Swap

**Saturday, April 20, 2024**

9:00 to 11:00 am

Registration/check-in at 8:30 am

Rain or Shine

Lansdale Pavilion

Lansdale/Monsignor Pickard Park

8201 Roos, Houston, TX 77036 (between Mary Bates and Waldo)

To register, please go to [www.sharpstownparks.org](http://www.sharpstownparks.org) or use the QR code



## FREE PET VACCINES

THANKS TO  **petco love**  
A NONPROFIT CHANGING LIVES



**Date/Time:** Sunday April 28th, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

**Location:** Burnett Bayland Park Community Center  
6026 Chimney Rock Rd, Houston, TX 77081

**Other Services:** Free distemper vaccines and microchips for owned pets

**Register at:** Please scan the QR code to register

\*Limit of 4 owned animals per household/address

**Url:** <https://forms.gle/GvhkRk8btEiuWnbK6>



**WE CAN HELP**

- Missing Shingles?
- Have Leaks?
- Turned Down by Insurance?

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LIBRARY NEWS

Walter Branch Library-So Much More Than Books  
Our neighborhood library offers an outstanding calendar of programs and classes such as

- Basic, intermediate and advanced computer applications like Word, Excel and PowerPoint
- Family movie time
- Bilingual story hours in Spanish and Mandarin
- Citizenship classes

Find the full calendar of events plus location and hours at [http://houstonlibrary.org/location/walter-neighborhood-library?items\\_per\\_page=200#events](http://houstonlibrary.org/location/walter-neighborhood-library?items_per_page=200#events)



LANSDALE PARK ACTIVITIES

- Free After School Program for children 6 to 13 years of age
- Seeking Adult and Teen Volunteers (Build Your Own Hours)

Tiffany Goodlow, Site Manager  
Lansdale Community Center  
8201 Roos Rd  
Office: 713-272-3668

Please visit our website for program registration:

<http://www.houstontx.gov/parks/communitycenters/cc-lansdale.html>



TNR - TRAP NEUTER RELEASE PROGRAM

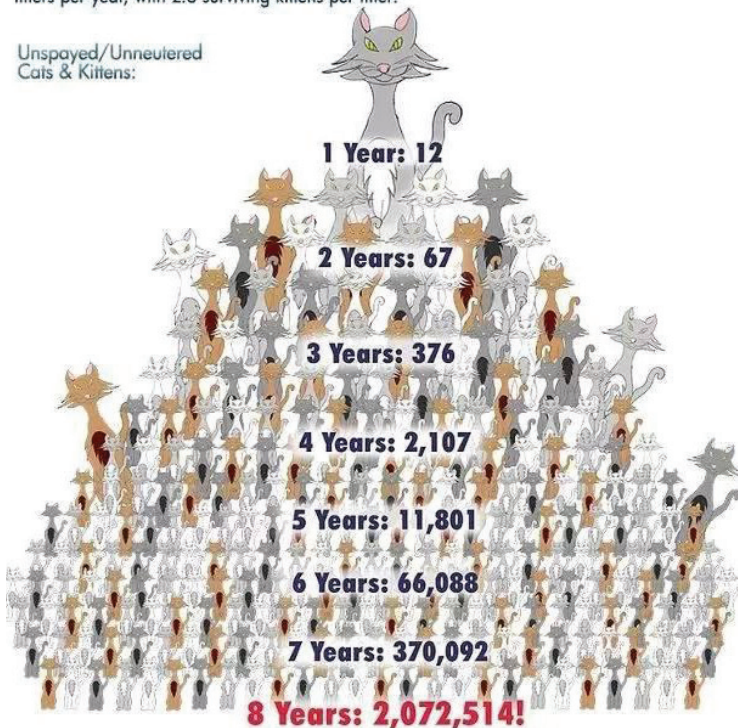
Kitten season has begun early and females are in heat if they are not already pregnant. Over 400 cats have been spayed or neutered 2022-2024. Using the chart above this equates to 6,000 kittens that will not be born in Sharpstown in 2024 if half of the 400 were female. Can you see how this effort positively effects our neighborhood?

The need to TNR (Trap Neuter Return) is so important to do NOW. This is a 100% volunteer effort by your SCA neighbors...hours and hours of their time. Please contact the SCA office if you need help with this issue in your neighborhood.

What impact will the Campaign to Save Pets' Lives have?

This chart represents one unspayed female, her mate and all of her offspring, producing 2 litters per year, with 2.8 surviving kittens per litter:

Unspayed/Unneutered Cats & Kittens:



By spaying and neutering just one male and one female cat, more than 2,000 unwanted births can be prevented in just four years – and more than 2 million in 8 years!

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED

FREE ESTIMATES

Brick Crack Repair  
Mortar Match  
Leaning Walls / Columns

New Perimeter  
Brick & Wall Repair  
Monument Sign

Fireplace & Chimneys  
Chimney Leaks  
CMU Repair & Installation

Water Repellent Treatment  
Tuck Pointing  
Brick Staining

Stone Repair & Installation  
Brick Paver Repair & Installation

New Brick Mailbox  
Installation & Repair  
Whitewash & German Smear


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## TRAIL SHAPING UP IN SHARPSTOWN



Previous SCA President Charmaine LeBlanc, giving a wave to the UofH School of Architect teacher and student that started all of this.

### DUG BEGLEY, HOUSTON CHRONICAL

If you look at Sharpstown on any online map and pull up the satellite view, you will see a lot of concrete and rooftops. Study closely, however, and even park-starved Sharpstown has a narrow ribbon of green - bisected by electrical transmission wires.

For Charmaine LeBlanc, who is active in Sharpstown community groups, it was at least a start at some safe parklike space.

Pretty soon, officials say, it will become a running and biking trail in one of the places most in need of better pedestrian and cyclist connections, and a green space. This trail will enable people to get out of their homes, and renew themselves and potentially their communities.

“When I grew up in Meyer-land, we spent 90% of our time outdoors,” said Welcome Wilson Jr., chairman of the Southwest Houston Redevelopment Authority. “Now it is the reverse.”

The new trail, along about 1.8 miles of CenterPoint electrical transmission easement, will run from Sands Point Drive near the Westpark Tollway to Beechnut, close to Interstate 69.

Work on the trail is expected to take until autumn, according to current schedules. The \$3.1 million cost is split between TIRZ 20, which works closely with the Southwest Management District on projects in the Sharpstown area, and Harris County Precinct 4 Commissioner Lesley Briones’ office, which has focused funding on improving public spaces and access to them.

The management district will maintain the trail upon its completion, citing its importance in offering commuting options to jobs and schools, as well as a chance for people to exercise.

“This trail will make this neighborhood more desirable as a place

to live and/or do business,” said Kenneth Li, chairman of the management district.

In addition to the trail under the transmission lines, plans for the project - done in cooperation with the nonprofit Houston Parks Board - include street crossings and a new pedestrian traffic signal at Gessner. Providing the north-south route, Briones said, improves overall safety by giving pedestrians a choice.

“We don’t need our children walking on Gessner,” Briones said. “We all know how traffic-heavy it is.”

LeBlanc, who kicked off discussion of the trail five years ago, said finding that safe space in Sharpstown was a tough fit.

“You cannot double-stack a park,” she said of the dense community.

At first, the response from CenterPoint, which maintains the easement for its lines, was refusal.

“They didn’t want you to stand still,” LaBlanc said. “Don’t you dare put a bench down.”

City officials, beginning in the Annise Parker administration and with support from state lawmakers, eased some of the utility’s operations. Harris County finalized a similar agreement in 2020.

In many Houston communities, park board President Beth White said, trail planners can easily accommodate the company and create useful links.

“I think all of us are getting smarter about dual-purpose and triple-purpose infrastructure.” White said, noting the Bayou Greenways program along area flood control channels and bayous has a similar focus.

While development has been slower than some expected when CenterPoint and city officials agreed to the deal, White said in many places it remains the best way to connect the mostly east-west bayous via north-south electrical transmission lines.

Sharpstown is no different. Eventually, the aim is to connect the trail to the Brays Bayou Greenway, currently under construction less than a half-mile south of Beechnut.

“What we are doing is finding those links,” White said. “Those connections are becoming so important.”



Houston Parks Board and SCA resident discuss the trail.

**HOW OUR PARKS AND SCHOOLS GOT THEIR NAMES**



MICHAEL MARHALL, LIVING IN SHARPSTOWN

I wrote a previous article about streets in Sharpstown, wondering how some of their names were chosen. I'm still wondering. This time it's about parks and schools and it's much easier. Let's start with the obvious. Two parks and two HISD schools, and indeed, Sharpstown are named for Frank W. Sharp, born in 1906 near Crockett, Texas. He moved to Houston after high school and in the 1930s, began building houses. After the Oak Forest subdivision was completed in 1955, Sharp began making plans for what was called, according to a brochure, "The biggest real-estate subdivision in the world". He named it Sharpstown. Sharpstown Park at Bellaire Boulevard and Harbor Town Drive and the much smaller Sharpstown Green Park at Hillcroft and Sharpview are named for him, as are Sharpstown High School and Sharpstown International School.

Monsignor (Father) Bill Pickard Park, formerly Lansdale Park, at Roos and Waldo, was renamed in for Father Pickard who had been the pastor of St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church for ten years. Monsignor (an honorary title, not a position) Pickard was one of several priests from this area who joined the famous civil rights march from Selma, Alabama in 1965 and later founded a hospital and dental clinic in Guatemala.

Crain Park at Pella and Triola was named for E.L. Crain, an architect and developer who worked with Frank Sharp in developing Oak Forest.

Bonham Park at Braes River and Carew and the elementary school next door are named for

James Butler Bonham, one of the soldiers defending the Alamo. He was sent by the commander, William Travis, to ask for help from the garrison at Goliad. But none was available, so he returned and was killed during the battle. He was born in South Carolina and was a second cousin of Travis.

Jane Long Academy at Bellaire Boulevard and Rookin was formerly called Jane Long Middle School. She is called the Mother of Texas and is one of the first women of English descent to settle here and to give to the first child born of an English speaking person.

Pat Neff Elementary at Tanglewilde and Neff, Neff was named for Pat Morris Neff, 28th Governor of Texas, 1921-1925 and the 9th president of Waco University, 1932-1947, his alma mater.

William S. Sutton Elementary at Albacore and Sharpview takes its name from William Seneca Sutton who was Superintendent of the Houston ISD from 1887 to 1897. He later served as the president of the University of Texas.

Edward H. White Elementary, across from Crain Park at Triola and Jorine, was named for a NASA astronaut, one of the second group selected. He graduated from West Point in 1952 and received test pilot training at Edwards Air Force Base in California. He was then assigned as a test pilot for the Aeronautical Systems Division at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio. He was the pilot of the Gemini 4 mission and was the first American to make a spacewalk. Ed White lost his life on January 27, 1967 during a training exercise for Apollo 1 when a fire broke out inside the capsule killing White and two other members of the crew, Gus Grissom and Roger Chaffee



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# COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

## NATURALIZATION CEREMONY MUSIC



Sharpstown residents Benjamin and Charmaine LeBlanc perform for the Naturalization Ceremony on March 6, 2024. What a wonderful day to celebrate with over 1200 new US citizens and their families. Judge Keith P. Ellison, US District Judge presided over the ceremony at the M.O. Campbell Educational Center.



## Birds at Monsignor Bill Pickard Park

<p><b>Chimney Swift</b> <i>Chaetura pelagica</i></p> <p>With shimmering iridescent wings, swifts spend most of their lives in flight foraging for insects. When they land, they can't perch but instead cling to vertical surfaces. Chimney swifts nest in caves and hollow trees. Chimney Swifts have adapted to urban areas and that's why you see them in large numbers during migration and also in cities.</p>	<p><b>Blue Jay</b> <i>Cyanocitta cristata</i></p> <p>These birds are recognized by their colorful pattern and rufous crest. Intelligent foragers, Blue Jays often eat acorns, the seeds of hazelnut. Jays frequently visit backyard feeders for sunflower seeds and peanuts, using their beaks to "popcorn" open the seeds. They also eat and store acorns, sometimes hoarding them in oak tree trunks in the process.</p>	<p><b>Northern Mockingbird</b> <i>Mimus polyglottos</i></p> <p>The white eye on neck, northern Mockingbirds are famous for their mimicry skills. They imitate the songs of many other birds throughout their lives. During nesting season their songs can be heard all day, and sometimes all night too!</p>
<p><b>Ruby-throated Hummingbird</b> <i>Arethya rubra</i></p> <p>They do dance, these birds readily appear that they're "beating" or "flourishing" their wings. Males have an iridescent red throat that shines in the sunlight. Spending their entire lives in flight, they can fly forward, backward, and hover. Adult individuals migrate south for the winter, with some flying 3000 miles nonstop over the Gulf of Mexico!</p>	<p><b>Carolina Chickadee</b> <i>Parus carolinensis</i></p> <p>Frequent visitors to backyard feeders, these small birds will also visit invertebrate bird houses. Often found in small flocks with other songbirds, they are named for their chick-a-dee-dee-dee calls. Many species use this sound to help defend predators. Chickadees often use varying calls to indicate different types of threats!</p>	<p><b>Yellow-rumped Warbler</b> <i>Setophaga coronata</i></p> <p>With patches of yellow on their chests, throats, and heads, these warblers are usually found in flocks in the winter. They forage in the tree canopy, often being out to catch insects in the air. The Myrtle subspecies is common in our area, and are so named because yellow-rumped warblers are the only warbler that can sing the full or "suburban" and "myrtle".</p>
<p><b>Downy Woodpecker</b> <i>Dryobates pubescens</i></p> <p>Our smallest woodpecker, these birds are known for their zig-zag or "dry" pattern. They are also known for their ability to hang upside down from tree trunks. They have a red nape, black and white body, and are distinguished by a patch of red on the back of their heads.</p>	<p><b>Ruby-crowned Kinglet</b> <i>Corthylio cafer</i></p> <p>Kinglets are colorful, tiny birds commonly found among the branches. Larger than a hummingbird but smaller than a chickadee, these birds feed by plucking insects off of twigs and branches. They also feed on nectar from their own, however they are very insectivorous, only moving when the bird is agitated.</p>	<p><b>Northern Cardinal</b> <i>Cardinalis cardinalis</i></p> <p>Commonly referred to as "cardinals," cardinals are common in backyards. They have a long beak for cracking open seeds, and frequently visit bird feeders. Cardinals are popular for their vibrant red color and strong songs, which sometimes are heard from within the woods. Northern cardinals are subject to color mutations, rarely appearing pink, yellow, or white.</p>

Bird illustrations provided by Professor Gin-Ty Lee.

HARRIS COUNTY PRECINCT 4  
**COMMISSIONER LESLEY BRIONES**

Year Round Summer Winter

See a bird not shown here? Try the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's Merlin Bird ID phone app or scan the QR code to search their All About Birds online bird guide (no app required).

The new sign on the kiosk will help you identify common birds in the park.

# Liberty Fest 2024

**JUNE 30**  
SUNDAY 4PM-9PM

**PLAZA AMERICAS**  
7500 BELLAIRE BLVD. - 77036

Join us for a celebration of liberty with entertainment, music, food, vendors and a very special Fireworks Show!

SHARPSTOWN CIVIC ASSOCIATION | TELEMUNDO HOUSTON | PLAZA AMERICAS

SWMDLibertyFest.com



SHARPSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL



SHARPSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

It's a great day to be an APOLLO...for over 10 years we have partnered with the Houston Marathon Foundation to run the Chevron Houston Marathon!!

Despite the uncertainty of weather conditions, most of our kids and even one of our coaches Greg Boles participated, enjoyed and laughed along the 13.1 mile course! They were a great inspiration!!

#wedomorethancoach #houstonmarathon  
#houstonmarathonfoundation



**Julio Morales**  
Theatre Director  
Sharpstown High School

SHS TEACHER HONORED

Texas Thesians honors Mr. Julio Morales as the 2024 Golden Apple Award recipient for his dedication to theatre performance in Texas and to the aims and ideals of the Educational Theatre Association, as well as his contribution to continued standards of excellence in Texas theatre. #TTEC24 #texasthesians @houstontxisd Houston Independent School District



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SEAL SECURITY .....	713-338-2266
HPD MIDWEST SUBSTATION .....	832-394-1200
RANCHESTER STOREFRONT .....	832-394-2780
HPD S GESSNER SUBSTATION .....	832-394-4700
GULFTON STOREFRONT .....	832-394-2660
HPD NON-EMERGENCY .....	713-884-3131

## RECYCLING THE RIGHT WAY

The City of Houston publishes a trash and recycling collection schedule but there are circumstances that often alter this schedule. Leave your container out and the next day is usually catch up day. If in doubt, call 311 or Scott at the SCA office for information. Here's a quick refresher on what to place in your GREEN curbside recycling bin and what goes in the black curbside trash container. Put these items in your GREEN Bin (make sure you empty and rinse plastic, metal, glass and coated containers).



METAL AND CANS

### METAL and CANS:

Aluminum and Tin Cans (rinsed drained)



PLASTICS #1-5  
& #7

### PLASTICS:

Plastic Containers #1 - 5 and 7 (rinsed drained)



CARDBOARD &  
CARTONS

### CARDBOARD and CARTONS:

Carton - Cardboard boxes and cartons from items such as milk, juice, soup, crackers, cream, beans, water, broth, wine, etc.



PAPER &  
NEWSPAPER

### PAPER:

Paper, Newspaper, Catalogs, Magazines and Phone Books



### GLASS:

Effective immediately, **glass is accepted in the green curbside recycling bin.**

Please don't put dirty paper (greasy pizza boxes), large plastic items like old toys, or plastic bags in the green bin!

These items clog the machinery used to process recyclables resulting in delays and expense.



## WEEKLY TRASH PICKUP

Sec 1, 2, 3, 5 and CCT1, CCT2, CCT3 are "Tuesday B"  
Estates East and West are "Monday A"

[http://www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste/service\\_schedules.html](http://www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste/service_schedules.html)

## HEAVY TRASH SCHEDULE

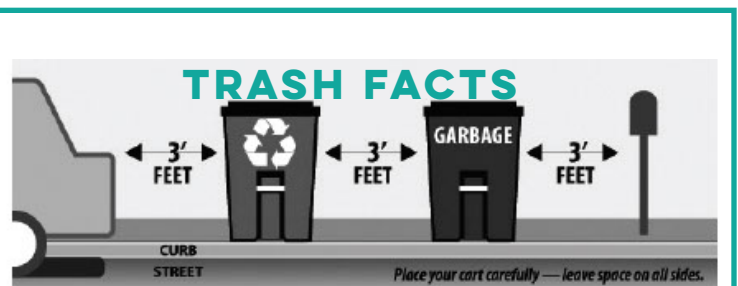
MONTH	MON	TUES	COLLECTION
APRIL	8	9	JUNK WASTE ONLY
MAY	13	14	TREE WASTE ONLY

Section 1 & 2 - Heavy Trash on Tuesday  
(second Tuesday of every month)

Section 3, 5, CCT1, CCT2, CCT3, Estates E&W - Heavy Trash on Monday (second Monday of every month)

**Yard Waste or Grass Clippings are picked up on Wednesdays.**

You may place waste at the curb no earlier than 6:00 pm on the Friday prior to collection.



### How to set out your garbage and recycling:

- City-provided containers must be placed at the curb between 6 p.m. the day before and 7 a.m. on the scheduled collection day.
- Container must face the street with handle facing house.
- Containers must be accessible and not blocked by obstacles, including parked cars, trees, mailboxes, fencing etc. Blocked containers will not be emptied.
- Leave at least a 3ft space between garbage and recycling container. This allows the truck to operate safely.
- Containers must be removed from the curb line and/or public view by 10:00 p.m. on the day of collection and stored in a secure location.

## HOW TO ADVERTISE IN THE SCAN

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.

Contact: Scott Gilbert  
SCA Office  
6815 Redding Rd.  
Houston, TX 77036  
Phone: 713-789-2311 Fax: 713-789-2312  
E-mail: Scott@SharpstownCivic.org



This newsletter is published bimonthly by the Sharpstown Civic Association.

Editors.....Charmaine LeBlanc & SCA Scan Committee



### WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE?

#### HEAVY TRASH!!!

Heavy trash and tree waste being put out at inappropriate times is a HUGE problem. Ignorance of the schedule and the COH's inconsistent routine make it an easy pit to fall in.

Please, Please, Please! Everyone can help here. Talk to your neighbors if you see them putting out trash/tree waste before it is time. When one person puts trash out then others think it must be ok too. STOP doing that!!!

Call 311 if they don't move it - you don't have to give your name. Call the District J office and report it. Just once I'd like to drive down our streets after a pick up date and see the area clear of debris, wouldn't you?

## Sharpstown History Project

### A City Within a City

**Mike Moore**  
AUTHOR / HISTORIAN / CURATOR

## Seeking photos of historic Sharpstown (1950-1980)

**Now interviewing long-term residents**

**(281) 736-5870**

6530 Bellaire Blvd, Unit S111 • Houston, Texas 77074

sharpstownhistoryproject@gmail.com

Sharpstown History Project

## STORM DRAIN PROBLEMS

If you have a storm drain in front of your house, please check to see if it has any debris. It doesn't matter whether it is leaves, pine needles, or trash--pick it up and throw it away. Don't let it flow into the storm drain and become part of a bigger problem.



## NOISY NEIGHBORS?

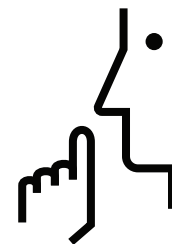
Chapter 30 of the Municipal Code governs Noise and Sound Regulation in the City of Houston.

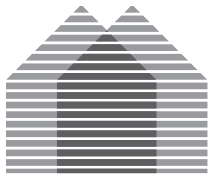
Residential Property Decibel Maximums

- 65 dB(A) during daytime hours (8:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.)
- 58 dB(A) during nighttime hours (10:01 p.m. – 7:59 a.m.)

Avenues to file Noise/Sound Complaints

- Phone: 713-884-3131 (non-emergency line)
- Online: [https://www.houstontx.gov/police/alert\\_slip/](https://www.houstontx.gov/police/alert_slip/)





# SHARPSTOWN CIVIC ASSOCIATION

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**DEED RESTRICTED COMMUNITY**

CHECK OUT SHARPSTOWNCIVIC.ORG OR "LIKE" US ON FACEBOOK



## MEMBERSHIP MEETING SCHEDULE

Will be in person and streamed LIVE on our Facebook page.  
Meet & Eat @ 6:30 PM  
Meeting starts @ 7:00 PM

### MARCH 28, 2024

Gabriella Marshall Macken will speak on Insurance

We will be meeting in the Annex at Bayland Community Center

### MAY 25, 2023

Bob Patterson with Southwest Fertilizer - Spring Yard Care

BAYLAND PARK COMMUNITY CENTER  
6400 BISSONNET

STAY TUNED TO THE SCA WEBSITE SHARPSTOWNCIVIC.ORG, THE SCA FACEBOOK PAGE, AND SUBSCRIBE TO SCA EMAIL FOR SCHEDULE UPDATES, AND OTHER COMMUNITY NEWS.



## YOU MAY JOIN OR RENEW ONLINE AT SHARPSTOWNCIVIC.ORG

Or Please Return This Form with Your Payment – Thankyou!

Membership Dues \_\_\_\_\_ Security \_\_\_\_\_ Total \_\_\_\_\_  
\$80.00 + \$170.00 = \$250.00

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ VISA \_\_\_ MASTERCARD \_\_\_ DISCOVER \_\_\_ EXP DATE \_\_\_\_\_ CVC \_\_\_\_\_

CREDIT CARD # \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

NAME(s) \_\_\_\_\_ ST ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

SECONDARY EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

One payment of \$250 is requested. Please contact the SCA office if other payment arrangements are needed.

