



# Crestwood / Glen Cove Neighborhood

*Crestwood Civic Club*

Volume 8, Issue 1

## Message from the President

All Crestwood/Glen Cove residents are invited to attend our Civic Club's twice-yearly All-Neighborhood Meetings. The meetings give us an opportunity to get to know our neighbors, discuss issues of common interest, and vote on matters that impact our residents. Our next All-Neighborhood Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 6th at 7:00 PM in the Community Room at St. Theresa's Catholic Church (6622 Haskell). We will be discussing some important issues including proposed changes to the Outer Loop Trail Project that will impact Crestwood Drive, north of Memorial Drive. Sally Tyler, Executive Director at Memorial Park Conservancy will be providing clarification about proposed changes. I look forward to seeing you there.

We are also pleased to be able to continue our security program services in 2010 with the Harris County Constables. We think this service is a great value, and we encourage all residents to participate to help keep the costs low. Benefits include direct access to the Constables phone number and window stickers identifying participation in the program. Invoices have been sent out for 2010: \$300 per home for 2009 participants and \$600 per home for new participants. There have been some minor security incidents in the last year, and most of those have been associated with break-ins of vehicles parked on the street or in driveways. Additional stop signs have been installed at some intersections to help slow the speed of vehicles traveling through our neighborhood. Thank you for supporting our security program!



**Brent Larsen,  
Outgoing President**

## Outer Loop Trail Project

As a part of the \$10 million Capital Campaign of improvements for Memorial Park, Memorial Park Conservancy is raising \$2 million to complete an all-weather Outer Loop Trail. This trail will mirror the Seymour Leiberman Exer-Trail on the opposite side of Memorial Loop East and West. The trail will provide 2.525 additional miles of usable trails within the park itself, giving users an alternative to the trail along the busy Memorial Drive and heavy traffic emissions. The trails will be widened and given a hard edge that will blend with the surrounding landscape. Handicapped accessibility will be included in all design plans. SWA Group

will prepare the design plans and engineering construction documents for the project. Memorial Park Conservancy, a community-led non-profit, works in cooperation with Houston Parks & Recreation Department, under a Development Contract passed by City Council in 2008. These projects are part of a five-year campaign of improvements to the park including the "Living Bridge", Tennis Plaza Renovation, Trail Lighting, and a Running/Trails Center. Should you have questions or concerns, please contact the author of this article Sally Tyler, Executive Director, Memorial Park Conservancy at 713-863-8403.



## Inside this issue:

Compostable Bags	2
Improvements	2
2009 Block Party	3
Speed Limits	4
Meeting Agenda	4
Bayou Bend Update	5
Washington Ave	5

## NEWS FLASH

**Council Member-At-Large Stephen Costello, will be present at the April 6 Neighborhood Meeting in person to give overview and projects of the campaign, followed by a closer description of the Outer Loop Trail!**

# City of Houston Compostable Bags Required April 5, 2010

Join the City of Houston and Go Green! Effective April 5, 2010, if you are going to bag up yard waste, it must be in an approved compostable bag, displaying the City of Houston logo. Yard trimmings placed in the trash bin or any other type of bag or container WILL NOT be collected. APPROVED compostable bags can be bought at any supermarket or hardware store. To find a list of current retailers and more information please go to the SWD web site at [www.houstonsolidwaste.org](http://www.houstonsolidwaste.org).

A regular trash bag can take over 100 years to decompose! But when it comes to yard waste, like grass clippings and leaves, you have choices: grass-cycling, composting, or the use of compostable bags. So why fill up the landfills? By di-

verting this material from area landfills, the city anticipates saving at least \$1.5 million dollars annually while preserving the environment and valuable landfill space. The Solid Waste



Department (SWD) will use these savings to add more Houstonians to the Automated Recycling Program.

Since last fall, Crestwood Glencove has had an automated curbside recycling.

All recyclable materials go in the 96-gallon bin and are taken to an automated sorting center. Please do not use your green recycling bin as a trash can for food, garbage or yard waste. Make sure your green recycling bin is at least three feet from your black trash bin so the different trucks can get to them easily.

And, as a courtesy to your neighbors, please don't forget to store your trash and recycling bins out of sight from the street.

If you have any questions about the automated curbside program, compostable bags or any other recycling queries, please call the City Customer Service Hotline at 3-1-1, or log on to [www.houstonsolidwaste.org](http://www.houstonsolidwaste.org).

You may also contact Rebecca Marvil, out recycling Board Member at [recycling@crestwoodglencove.org](mailto:recycling@crestwoodglencove.org).

## Now is the Time...

To consider repairs and improvements in the neighborhood. The City of Houston provides this service as a Capital Improvement Project that targets specific activities such as street repaving, curbs and gutters, and storm sewers. For a particular neighborhood, these projects do not occur very often, and need to be

forecasted well in advance so that they may be budgeted by the City.

These projects tend to be large and comprehensive, with budgets starting around \$300,000 and ranging to tens of millions of dollars. The time horizon for planning and executing these projects is 3-5 years, with lower priority projects

being delayed 5-10 years.

If we think that our neighborhood will need this type of City service within this time frame, we need to act soon to create a project on our behalf.

Please submit your thoughts and ideas to Mike Vandusen.

## Board Members

President	Brent Larsen	713/301-1687	<a href="mailto:president@crestwoodglencove.org">president@crestwoodglencove.org</a>
VP/President-Elect	Mike Vandusen	713/864-0221	<a href="mailto:vp@crestwoodglencove.org">vp@crestwoodglencove.org</a>
Treasurer	Mary Christ	713/410-4888	<a href="mailto:treasurer@crestwoodglencove.org">treasurer@crestwoodglencove.org</a>
Secretary	Scott Nelson	713/269-2619	<a href="mailto:secretary@crestwoodglencove.org">secretary@crestwoodglencove.org</a>
Recycling	Rebecca Marvil	713/861-6804	<a href="mailto:recycling@crestwoodglencove.org">recycling@crestwoodglencove.org</a>
Board Member	Lisa Cooper	713/864-1024	<a href="mailto:info@crestwoodglencove.org">info@crestwoodglencove.org</a>

Communications: Susi Knight has assumed the responsibilities of Kim McVeigh has moved to China to be with her husband. The board would like to thank Kim for all her hard work. Drop her a note and feedback at [communications@crestwoodglencove.org](mailto:communications@crestwoodglencove.org)



## 2009 Block Party

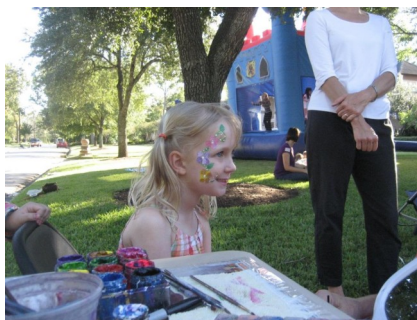
Under sunny, not-too-hot skies, the Crestwood / Glen Cove annual Block Party was held on Sunday, November 1, 2009. Somehow the weather knows when to cooperate with us! The children enjoyed the animal balloons (some with Halloween themes), face painting, and the always-popular moon walk. This was also an opportunity for many of the neighborhood dogs got to make more canine friends.

At popular request, the singer Randy Marshall, returned again this year. The desserts and additional side dishes were wonderful this year; thanks to all who contributed! Lots of candy was to be found at the table ... not surprisingly, given the party was the day after Halloween.

It does, indeed, take a block to hold a block party. Andre Crispin stopped by

with a generous donation of fantastic wine. Special thanks to Mary Christ of Greenwood King for sponsoring the event, providing the entertainment, children's activities, and brats, burgers, and drinks. Once again the neighbors all pitched in: Mike and Sharon Speck provided the grill and use of their property for the moon walk, and Randy and Cheryl Sorrels provided their yard for overflow.

## Photos



## Curb Painting of Addresses Coming Soon:

One of the benefits periodically conferred on homeowners who pay their voluntary Civic Club dues is having addresses painted on the curb in front of their home. Not only is this a safety issue (allowing emergency responders to easily see your address - even at night), but it also provides a consistent feature throughout the neighborhood. The Civic Club will again provide curb painting in 2010. Bills for voluntary Civic Club dues will be coming out a bit earlier in order to facilitate this service. When paying your voluntary dues, please be sure to confirm you wish to participate in this program; your address will not be painted without confirmation.

## What is the Speed Limit in our neighborhood?



Going the speed limit doesn't matter when there are children on the road. Very few of our streets have sidewalks so children have to bike, scooter and walk on the streets. Don't zoom past them (at the speed limit). You might not officially be breaking a law but you are endangering their lives. **SLOW DOWN and THINK!**



## Rally around the rails—Go Metro Rail

Houston, one of the fastest-growing cities in the US,. To keep our edge as an attractive place to live, raise a family and build a career, we must continually make strides to ease traffic congestion, reduce greenhouse emissions and improve our air quality. The proposed Uptown Line, or Gold Line, is one way to help meet these goals. The Line begins at the Northwest Transit Center, allowing commuters to transfer from 290 and I-10, and runs south along IH-610 to Post Oak Lane to connect with the University Line at Westpark. The line will also connect to the four-mile line that will connect the Galleria area with Downtown. Website: [www.gometrorail.org](http://www.gometrorail.org)



## All-Neighborhood Meeting - Agenda

### Regular Business

Treasurer's Report (Mary Christ)  
Architecture Committee (Bill Owens)  
Communications (Susi Knight)  
Recycling (Rebecca Marvil)

### Other Business

Security Update (Andrea Womble)  
Street Lighting Project (Mike Van-Dusen)

### Special Business

Outer Loop Trail Project (Sally Tyler, Memorial Park Conservancy)

## Any CPA in the Neighborhood Willing to Help with Our Taxes?

The Civic Club is a non-profit and the tax filing is quite straight forward. We're looking for a neighbor who's willing to provide a few hours of help to prepare these taxes on a pro-bono basis. This should be very straight forward work. Please call or email Mary Christ at 713.410.4888 or [MaryC@GreenwoodKing.com](mailto:MaryC@GreenwoodKing.com).

## Neighborhood Directories

The Crestwood / Glen Cove directory was delivered on January 1. Our thanks to Mary for continuing to coordinate and sponsor this initiative.

If you did not receive your directory, but paid your 2009 homeowner's dues, please contact Mary Christ at 713.410.4888 or [MaryC@GreenwoodKing.com](mailto:MaryC@GreenwoodKing.com).



# About Bayou Bend

## The Lora Jean Kilroy Visitor And Education Center. Opening September 2010

This September Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens will open the Lora Jean Kilroy Visitor and Education Center on two acres at the corner of Westcott and Memorial, fulfilling the vision of its founder, legendary Houston philanthropist and collector Miss Ima Hogg.

The sleek, two-story visitor's center — featuring a library, a retail shop, two state-of-the-art meeting rooms, public terraces and ample parking — will serve

as a destination resource dedicated to American art, culture, and history, and fostering a greater understanding of Bayou Bend's unique contributions to the field through its collections, its architecture, and its surrounding gardens and woodlands. The project also features the renovation and reinstallation of several significant rooms within the house museum that have served as museum offices for many years. The rooms will return to exhibition space, displaying both



new acquisitions and objects not exhibited before, including extensive and significant collections of silver and textiles.

## Get to Know Deputy Wagner— our Constable on Patrol

Deputy Wagner is a lifetime law enforcer and advocate. He attended San Jacinto Junior College where he majored in Criminal Justice, then started his law enforcement career in 1984 with the Houston Police Department as a community services officer. His assignments with the Precinct One Harris County Constables include building and contract patrol. Deputy Wagner helped his family open Acres Home Barber College and is still involved with management of the school's operations. Stop by his car and say hello.

Thanks to Gehring/De Vassal & Knight Team at Morgan Stanley Smith Barney for their sponsorship of this newsletter. Between them this team has over 60 years of experience in the business and financial world. They will be hosting a Seminar on Retirement at Beck's Prime on April 17th. Please stop by to say hello. To learn more visit their websites at [http://fa.smithbarney.com/gehring\\_devassal/](http://fa.smithbarney.com/gehring_devassal/) and <http://fa.smithbarney.com/susi.knight>. You can also reach them at the Morgan Stanley Smith Barney Downtown Houston office at 713 658-2737.

## Hitching a Ride Down Washington Ave

The goings-on here took off about two or so years ago when great crowds — mostly professional, mostly between the ages of 21 and 35 — began arriving from all corners to partake of the new restaurants, bars and nightclubs. As a result, the once-dilapidated thoroughfare is now struggling to settle into its new role as Houston's premier playground for the young and the intoxicated.

Houston's nightlife is well known for being peripatetic. And now it's Washington Avenue's turn. "There were a lot of quirky cultural places," said Jane West, president of the Super Neighborhood Council 22, a coalition of residents and

civic and business-owners, "but a lot of it was underdeveloped and derelict."

Now with more than 40 establishments on Washington laying claim to current or pending licenses to sell alcohol, the theme of the avenue has become food and drink. DWI arrests have nearly doubled. The development can seem overwhelming, especially on weekends, when traffic comes to a standstill.

West and neighborhood activists have been calling on the city for help. Chief on the to-do list: parking spots, parking signs, parking rules, parking structures. After that: noise regulations, valet and

taxi lanes, sidewalks and public transportation.

Some changes are under way. The city has introduced residential parking permits in neighborhoods to curtail parking by outsiders.

In mid-February, Councilman Ed Gonzalez convened a meeting that included neighborhood activists, city planning and police officials, and at least one representative of the mayor's office. The meeting was long a goal of the super neighborhood, and it gave hope to some. Please let us know your thoughts on the pros and cons of the development.

## Crestwood Civic Club

P.O. Box 13154

Houston, Tx 77219-1594

Email: [info@crestwoodglencove.org](mailto:info@crestwoodglencove.org)

We're on the web

[www.crestwoodglencove.org](http://www.crestwoodglencove.org)

Happy, Healthy and Wholesome



## Introducing a new Standard of Retirement.

The Morgan Stanley Smith Barney Retirement Standard is a disciplined approach to retirement services that goes beyond investments. Our step-by-step approach addresses the 10 key components of a sound retirement plan that we think everyone needs to understand.

To attend a complimentary seminar of "Who is Helping You Write the Next Chapter of Your Life?", contact: **Susi Knight at (713) 658-2737 or sign up at [www.f.a.smithbarney.com/susiknight](http://www.f.a.smithbarney.com/susiknight)**

**Hosted by:** George DeVassal, Robert Gehring and Susi Knight  
Financial Advisors

**Date/Time:** Saturday, April 17th, 2010 / 11am-2pm

**Location:** Beck's Prime Memorial Park Golf Course (Club House)  
1001 E. Memorial Loop, Houston, TX 77007

**RSVP:** Required by April 15th

*Refreshments/Lunch/will be served. Guests are welcome.*

**Morgan Stanley  
Smith Barney**

A Morgan Stanley Company

Tax laws are complex and subject to change. This information is based on current federal tax laws in effect at the time this was written. Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated and Morgan Stanley Smith Barney's Financial Advisors do not provide tax or legal advice. This material was not intended nor written to be used for the purpose of avoiding tax penalties that may be imposed on the taxpayer. Individuals are urged to consult their personal tax or legal advisors to understand the tax and related consequences of any actions or investments described herein.

©2010 Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC. Member SIPC.