

THE BOCA NEWSLETTER

Membership Edition

A PUBLICATION OF THE **BOULEVARD OAKS CIVIC ASSOCIATION**

AUG / SEPT 2020

Letter from the Incoming President

Dear Neighbors:

Boulevard Oaks has many wonderful attributes. Though we may have been drawn in by its award-winning architecture, oak-lined esplanades, or central location, the people are the strength and, indeed, the true appeal of the neighborhood.

In 1980, a dedicated group of neighbors pulled together to organize a pocket of 16 different small subdivisions into one civic association that now contains 22 subdivisions, over 1400 households and over 2200 residents. This organizational effort has ever since provided Boulevard Oaks Civic Association (BOCA) a strong and cohesive voice with which to advocate for quality of life issues affecting our residents.

As a desirable close-in neighborhood we face many challenges, including new development, traffic, parking, infrastructure maintenance, and criminal activity. These challenges are met with the help of committed residents, the board of directors and officers of BOCA, and our outstanding executive director Evalyn Krudy.

BOCA is also a member organization of the SOUTHAMPTON/BOCA PATROL SERVICE, which is itself funded and operated as a separate 501c4 organization. In addition to supporting BOCA through your annual membership dues and contributions to our fundraisers, we strongly encourage you to contribute to the Patrol Service. While crime is a fact of life in all neighborhoods, our dedicated patrol service does a terrific job of lessening its impact. You can find more information on the patrol on page 4.

Over the next year, BOCA will continue to be your voice in addressing ongoing issues related to development (historic preservation, subdivision restrictions and residential/commercial balance); protection of trees and green space; infrastructure improvements (streets, sewer and drainage, street lights); and mobility (bike and pedestrian).

BOCA will also continue to promote neighborhood engagement and involvement through social events such as Night Out (10/6), the Holiday Caroling Party (12/13), the Egg Hunt (4/5/21), Spring Mixer (date TBD) and the 4th of July party. In these times of social distancing, if we are unable to meet in-person we will work toward finding alternative arrangements to engage with one another, as we did this past 4th of July.

I encourage you to stay involved in keeping our neighborhood a thriving community. You can do this by volunteering for one or more committees or events, by offering your expertise, and by your financial support. Please join or renew your BOCA membership for the current fiscal year (July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021) at the highest level your budget allows. BOCA membership levels are \$50 Regular, \$100 Sustaining, and \$200 Patron. A membership form and reply envelope are enclosed in this mailing. Make checks payable to BOCA, or visit www.BoulevardOaks.org to pay with a credit card or PayPal account.

Most importantly, we will keep Boulevard Oaks a great place to live by continuing to be kind, inclusive and welcoming to all our neighbors, both within BOCA and throughout this great city we call home.

I look forward to working with you and am honored to serve as BOCA's president. -- *James Cogan*

Election Excitement is Building

Submitted by Mary Nugent

Excitement for Election Day 2020 is building! It's not too early to check your voter registration and ensure everything is correct at www.Harrisvotes.com.



In order to vote in the Presidential Election on November 3rd, one must have registered to vote before October 5, 2020. If you are not yet registered, contact deputy voter registrar Mary Nugent at 713-898-2584. All the latest information about Election Day polling places and absentee voting/ballot-by-mail can be found at www.HarrisVotes.com.

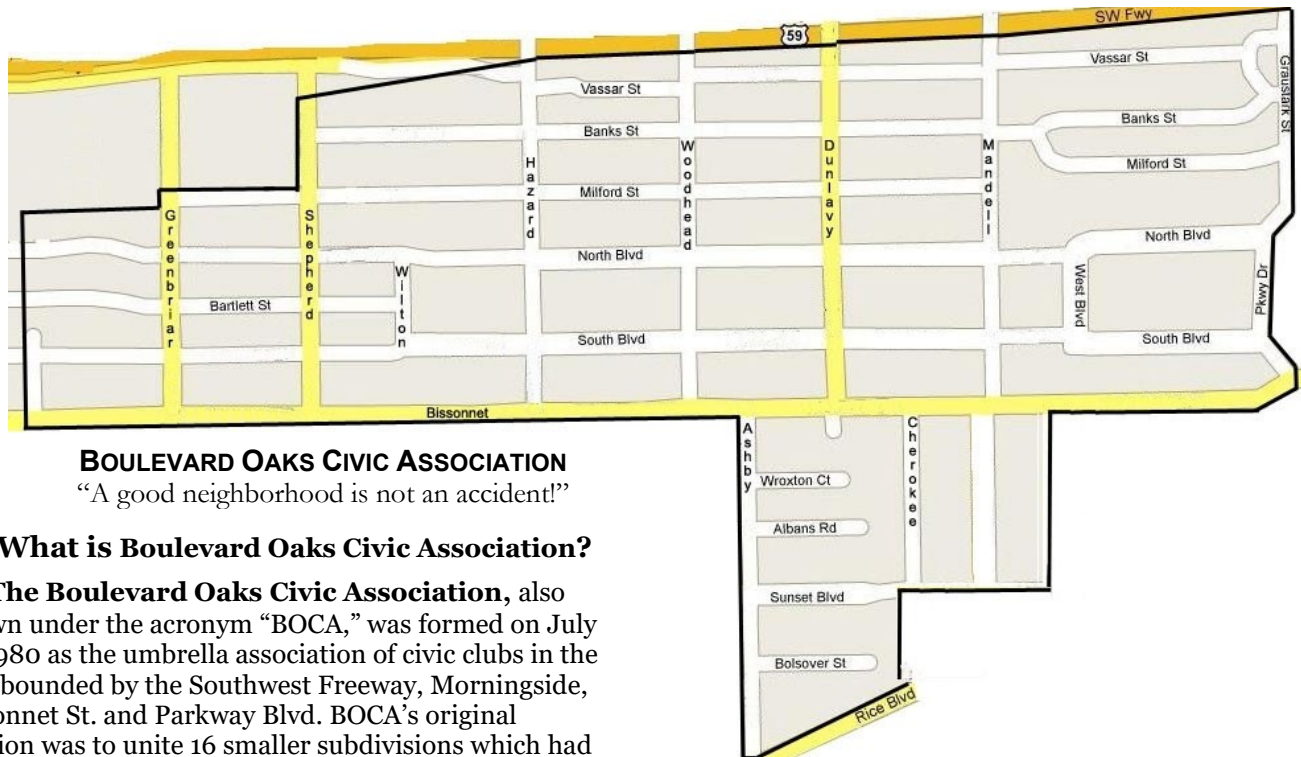
I have been assured that Poe Elementary School will be open for voting from 7 am until 7 pm on Election Day, November 3. Please call me if you have any questions or if you need to register to vote before the October 5 deadline.

Be aware that if you are submitting a Mail-In Ballot, the signature on the application must match the signature on the ballot, as ballots with differing signatures may not be counted. If yours signature tends to be inconsistent, take a picture of your application before posting it to help you remember how you signed it.

Early voting begins on October 13. This year, seven early voting sites will be open 24 hours, from 7 a.m. on October 29 through 7 p.m. on October 30.

Boulevard Oaks Civic Association (BOCA)

FAQs about BOCA, other Civic Groups, and the Patrol Service



BOULEVARD OAKS CIVIC ASSOCIATION
 "A good neighborhood is not an accident!"

Q: What is Boulevard Oaks Civic Association?

A: The Boulevard Oaks Civic Association, also known under the acronym "BOCA," was formed on July 15, 1980 as the umbrella association of civic clubs in the area bounded by the Southwest Freeway, Morningside, Bissonnet St. and Parkway Blvd. BOCA's original mission was to unite 16 smaller subdivisions which had been developed in the 1920s and 30s, in order to prevent a rail line from being constructed in place of homes on the north side of Vassar Street. Thankfully, those initial efforts were successful. Over the years, BOCA has championed numerous initiatives aimed at preserving quality of life and the special character of the neighborhood and surrounding area. These accomplishments include:

- Convincing TXDOT to rebuild the Southwest Freeway with a thoughtful, architecturally designed streetscape, bridges and landscaping.
- Keeping Rick's Cabaret from opening a new location at Greenbriar and the Southwest Freeway (now I-69).
- Creating the Gateway US59 Scenic District, which has prevented new billboards from being located on the Southwest Freeway.
- Planting more than 2500 street trees through the past 38 years and establishing one of the most notable urban forests in the nation.

Realizing the benefits of strength in numbers, blocks south of Bissonnet joined BOCA's umbrella in the late 1980s and early 90s. These blocks include the 5300 blocks of Cherokee and Mandell, the 1700 blocks of Albans, Wroxton, Bolsover and Rice Blvd., and 1700 block of Bissonnet (south side).

Now 22 subdivisions strong, Boulevard Oaks is comprised of approximately 1400 residences ranging from mansions to modest bungalows to duplexes and apartments. A handful of commercial establishments

now occupy some of the original homes and duplexes on Bissonnet and Sunset. BOCA is home to two historic districts protected by City ordinances -- the Broadacres and Boulevard Oaks Historic Districts -- which are also listed in the National Register of Historic Places. BOCA's Historic Districts Committee and its Advisory Council monitor construction projects in the districts and formally communicate BOCA's assessments to City authorities. If you are interested in historic preservation and would like more information or to join the Advisory Council, please contact us at info@BoulevardOaks.org.

Thanks to the strength of these neighborhoods and the efforts of our organization and countless volunteer hours spent during the past 40 years, our neighborhood's original residential character and charm remain intact.

Q: I receive bills from several neighborhood organizations. Which ones must I pay?

A: The variety of financial requests from area neighborhood organizations can be confusing. And determining which ones to support, and with what frequency, can be challenging. Depending upon your subdivision's status and deed restrictions, you may receive solicitations throughout the year from the seven groups listed on page 4. While this may seem excessive, each of these organizations is a separate entity. There is no simple way at this time to combine the various fees into one bill.

1) HOA assessments for your own subdivision

BOCA is comprised of 22 subdivisions, each with its own deed restrictions. Some have mandatory annual assessments. Mandatory subdivisions include Broadacres, Cherokee, Cresmere Place, Edgemont, Ormond Place, W. Ormond Place, Vassar Place and townhomes constructed throughout the neighborhood. Assessments are used for deed restriction enforcement and may also include fees for private trash service. Patrol dues are included in annual assessments for Edgemont, Broadacres and Southampton Estates.

2) BOCA Annual Dues (voluntary but important)

Boulevard Oaks Civic Association is the umbrella organization that deals with the broad issues affecting the 1,400 households and 22 subdivisions that comprise BOCA. Dues reminders are sent several times each year. Levels are \$50, \$100, \$200, and \$30 for tenants. You can read about our activities in this newsletter and on the web at www.BoulevardOaks.org. (Note: Regular level BOCA dues (\$50) are included in assessments for Edgemont & Southampton Estates HOAs. Residents of these subdivisions are invited to increase their BOCA membership level.)

3) BOCA Tree Fund (voluntary / tax-deductible)

The Trees for Boulevard Oaks project seeks to maintain the street tree canopy in all areas of Boulevard Oaks. This program was founded in conjunction with Trees for Houston, and donations are fully tax deductible. Annual requests for contributions are mailed to all households in November. All funds raised go toward street-tree planting and maintenance of our beautiful green canopy. Checks should be made payable to *Trees for Houston*. Include "BOCA" in the memo, and mail to BOCA.

4) Special Initiatives (voluntary)

Certain initiatives have necessitated additional fundraising and volunteer efforts over the years. Most notably, *Stop Ashby High Rise* was founded as a joint effort between residents of Boulevard Oaks and Southampton to prevent construction of a planned 23-story high-rise at Ashby and Bissonnet. This project remains on hold.

5) Sponsorship opportunities for BOCA's special events and newsletter (voluntary)

Special events include the 4th of July Party, Easter Egg Hunt, the Spring Mixer and Holiday Caroling Party. Newsletter sponsorship opportunities are also available. Contact us at info@BoulevardOaks.org for more info.

6) Southampton/Boulevard Oaks Patrol

(\$110 per quarter / voluntary / very important!!!)

The Patrol bills quarterly for this valuable service. Request envelopes and the Patrol newsletter are mailed quarterly. Or visit <https://sbps.memberclicks.net>, and click the *Enroll Now* button.

Please be aware that the Patrol Service is a separate entity and maintains its own administrative office.

BOCA appoints two representatives to the Patrol's 5-member governing board and stays in close communication with the Patrol Service Coordinator when crime patterns arise and sends crime alerts on behalf of the Patrol service when there is a pattern of burglaries or other serious crimes. Please see page 6 for instructions about signing up for electronic crime alerts. [Note: Homeowners in Broadacres, Edgemont and Southampton Estates do not receive a quarterly solicitation because Patrol fees are included in their annual assessments.]

7) Friends of Fleming Park (voluntary/tax-deductible)

This 501c3 organization oversees maintenance of Fleming Park, a City of Houston park, located at Sunset & Kent and within easy walking distance of Boulevard Oaks. Donations may be mailed to FFP, c/o Jim Reardon, 2021 Wroxtton Rd., Houston TX 77005.

Q: Does my BOCA membership extend for one year from the date I last joined?

A: BOCA was established in mid 1980 and follows a fiscal year of July 1 - June 30, in accordance with its bylaws. Dues are applied to the fiscal year in which they are received unless otherwise instructed. However, you are welcome to pay at the same time each year.

Q: Why join BOCA if I already pay annual dues to my subdivision?

A: Working on big-picture items that impact the larger area ensures that all 22 subdivisions comprising Boulevard Oaks Civic Association remain strong. Detailed information about BOCA's activities and benefits of membership are included in this newsletter. [Note: BOCA regular dues are already included in the annual HOA dues assessments for Edgemont and Southampton Estates.]

Q: May I pay for everything all at once?

A: At present, there is no way to combine your HOA assessments, BOCA dues, and/or Patrol subscription fees unless you are part of a mandatory association which assesses for all of these entities. Suggestions for simplifying neighborhood fundraising activities are welcome.

Volunteers Needed

Get to know your neighbors and become more familiar with what is going on in the neighborhood! Volunteer as a Block Captain or serve on a BOCA committee. Block Captains serve as liaison for their blocks, help welcome new neighbors, keep our database up to date, communicate urgent information, or may organize block parties.

Volunteers are also needed for our event committees (4th of July, Easter Egg Hunt, Caroling, 40th Celebration, , Mixers, Graffiti Control, and Beautification. More opportunities are listed on the 2020-21 membership form.

For more information, contact us at 713-528-BOCA(2622) or info@BoulevardOaks.org.



Support the Patrol!



**SOUTHAMPTON/
BOULEVARD OAKS
PATROL SERVICE**

Established 38 years ago, the Southhampton / Boulevard Oaks Patrol Service provides patrol coverage to the Boulevard Oaks and Southhampton neighborhoods. This service is an invaluable asset to the neighborhood. Unlike on duty HPD units, the Patrol is able to respond quickly to a variety of calls ranging from suspicious persons to scam artists and graffiti vandals to calls about serious crimes. Although tax dollars fund police, the city's

budget is unable to cover regular beat patrols, nor are there enough HPD officers to meet the demand in America's fourth largest city. Our Patrol fills this void.

The Patrol is on-duty 24 hours a day and is staffed by off-duty HPD officers who wear badges, carry guns and make arrests. Many of the officers are assigned to our area during their regular HPD shifts and know the area well. They are available to follow up investigations and track area crime patterns. The Patrol operates two late model police vehicles outfitted with factory police equipment packages, police type identification markings, and lights. Vacation Watch Service and Alarm Service response are available to subscribers. Call 713-825-5555 or submit a request online.

Neighbors are encouraged to support the *Southhampton / Boulevard Oaks Patrol* and to call the patrol officer on duty at **713-825-5555** whenever they see suspicious activity. Contribution requests are mailed quarterly to all Boulevard Oaks households. The subscription fee is \$110.00 per quarter. For more information, visit <http://sbps.memberclicks.net>.

Crime Prevention Tips from the Patrol Service

HPD has an excellent Crime Prevention Manual available at www.houstonpolice.org. Here are a few of the helpful tips recommended by the Patrol Service:

Turn on your porch lights to help stop crime.

The Patrol requests that neighbors turn on exterior lights at night to deter crime and to help the officers in their work. It's easy for criminals to hide in the dark areas shadows to avoid being caught. Keep bushes and landscaping trimmed to eliminate hiding places.

Remove newspapers and flyers daily. Thieves know that accumulating media is a sign that no one is home. Have a friend or neighbor pick them up if you are away.

Always activate your alarm system when you leave your home and keep it on overnight when you are at home.

Answer the door when someone knocks or rings the bell, through your locked door. But don't open the door to strangers. These days, most burglars knock.

Let them know you are home. If someone is trying to break into your home while you are there, move around, shout and make a lot of noise to let them know someone is inside (and call 911 immediately). That will often scare them away.

If you arrive home to find that your house has been burglarized, do not enter your home. Instead, call the Patrol immediately to have an officer check the premises to ensure that burglars are no longer inside.

Beware of Scams involving thieves posing as workmen for utility companies such as CenterPoint and various telecom providers, are on the rise. In this scam, well-rehearsed thieves wearing stolen uniforms lure unsuspecting residents into backyards to point out fake emergency work that must be performed immediately. Meanwhile, an accomplice burglarizes the home.

The Patrol suggests that if anyone comes to your door requesting access to your yard and you are not expecting them, call 713-825-5555 and the Patrol will verify the identity and credentials of the workmen. Don't allow workmen access until they have been verified.

Post a No Solicitors Sign at your door. From time to time, groups of solicitors cycle through the neighborhood promoting causes that are nearly always bogus. Don't give money away to solicitors who may be scamming you or casing your home.

Solicitors selling magazines are often recent parolees linked to identity theft rings. Others recent scams have involved "alleged" student athletes raising funds for Rice or U of H sports teams. Rice will never send solicitors door to door.

HPD reports that many solicitors have records and arrest warrants. Solicitors who mention neighbors that have supported their cause know names because they have looked inside mailboxes. *Call the Patrol when in doubt!* Deter solicitors by posting a no-solicitor sign at your door. Signs are available at local stores and through the BOCA office.

4th of July Fundraiser & Sign Design Contest A Virtual Hit

The annual BOCA 4th of July Party pivoted into a virtual party this year, but even without the parade and bad record number of sponsors made BOCA's biggest fundraiser apart from membership, a major success.

A contest was held to show 4th of July spirit at a distance and *Sofia Varela* from Milford Street submitted the winning artwork pictured to the right. The committee was delighted by this precious drawing, but it could not be used due to printing limitations, so the 2nd place art was used for signs that left much of the neighborhood awash in patriotic colors. Be sure to check out the full color artwork on our website. And, congratulations, *Sofia*!

Patriotic songs and traditional dance favorites were posted on the website to help neighbors celebrate at home.

Special thanks to the 4th of July team members for coming up with a great solution to the distancing orders! This year's team included *Donna, Ken & Dena Yanowski, Sue E. Payne, Jennifer DeLange*, and *Sue & Harry Lawson*. Thanks also to area Realtor, *Agelia Perez Marquez*, for co-sponsoring gift bags for top-tier donors and assisting with their delivery.



Above: First Place artwork by Sofia Varela

Right: 2nd place artwork by Shy Artist



Thank You 4th of July Sponsors!

Super Stars (\$250 +)

Richard Holt & Mark McMasters
The North Boulevard Nugents
Sue E. Payne

Founders (\$200 & up)

Joy Schmitz & Mark Barnes
Martha & Sam Bowen
Nancy & Trey Christensen
Brenda & Joe Cialone
Sallie Morian & Mike Clark
Gabriela & Daniel Dror
Sarah & Earl Dyke
Marsha & Lew Eatherton
Cece & Mack Fowler
Elizabeth Lee Herrera
Marianne & Rob Jones
April & Doug Konopka
Sue & Harry Lawson
Marley Lott
Agelia Perez Marquez, *Realtor*
Julie & John Mastroianni
Clay Neff & Family
Rick & Frances Rambo
Nicholas R. Rasmussen
Jeannette Burg & Tony Riedel
Sue & Norm Rund
Maria, Kirk, Alejandra
& Sofia Kanady
Loraine & Anthony Speier III
Sallie & Bob Wright

Continental Congress (\$100 & up)

Meg & George Basu
David Bryan & Susan Allen-Bryan,
Allen Brothers Realtors
Jean Hancock Chernosky
Bonnie McMillian & Bruce Coffman
Judy & Bill Crisp

Stephen Elison & Richard Brown
Srimonto & Smita Ghosh
Gary S. Grossman
Ann & James Harithas
Sonja Bruszauskas & Houston Haymon
Ted Hirtz
Kath & George Howe
Lauren & Ryan Hunsaker
Marjorie & Palmer Hutcheson
Clare & Guy Jackson
Jean & Rick Jenner
Pam Higgins & Tom Jones
Betty & Jim Key
Thad & Eric Lueders
Andrew McCain,

Neighborhood Realtor

Sara McIntosh
Diane Morain
Elaine & Alan Mut
H. Joe Nelson III
Alma & Edward John Novotny
Kelly Apple & Jason Orsak
Bette & Richard Pesikoff
The Pickering Family
Patricia & Joe Poff
Joanna & Don Reid Sr
Bebe Burns & Fred Rhodes
Lauren & Pat Rigby
Caroline & Andrew Roeser
Nanine Ewing & James Salners
Julie & Tony Sanchez
Ron & Dayna Sawyer
Cliff & Michelle Shedd
Harlene Anderson & Dave Shine
Ellen C. L. Simmons
Jennifer & David Strauss
Janice & Richard Stuff
John J. Toomey
Nicola & Richard Toubia

Glo Trigg
Fran & Brad Urquhart
Rhett & Laura Van Syoc
Roksan Okan-Vick & James Vick
The Vincent Family
Geoffrey Walker & Ann Kennedy
Shannon & Ryan Witz

Sons & Daughters of Liberty (\$50 & up)

Marci & Mark Arnold
Patti & Jim Bell
Terri & Darden Bourne
Carolyn Brewer
Marie & R. Hayden Burns
Hadley & James Cogan
Margaret & Jason Cooper
Bonnie & Dan Cromack
Peggy & John Dwyer
Wargo-Garber Family
Marion & Gary Globor
Patricia & Steve Grossman
Doris & John Heard
Alicia & Steve Howe
Roberta Howell
Kathy & Ron Kahanek
Evalyn & George Krudy
Sharon & Bob Livitz
The Cornelius - Lough Family
Karen & Mitchell Lukin
Pat & Michael Maass
Shannon & Jamie Mann
Stephanie Pedigo & Kenton Maulsby
Linnie & James McInerney
Adrienne & Stefan Murry
Dr. Nora M. Navone
Kristina & Gerald Nemec
Katie & Bob Orr
Nan & Bruce Parker

Judy Penner
Melissa & Robert Rabalais
Stephanie Reynolds
Carol & Andrew Savas
Jolyn & Russell Scheirman
Brenda Schroeder
Annita & Newton Schwartz
Vanessa & Radu L. Tutos
Leslie & Phil Wahl
Lily & Clinton Chip Wells
Debbie & Rhea Wheeler
Anna Wingfield
Payton, Ashley, Betsy,
Maggie & Lucy Wright
Donna & Ken Yanowski

Minute-Men/Women (\$25 & up)

Jennifer Lovric & Omead Adib
Mary & Dave Alderson
Christopher & Shannon Allen
Julie & Jonathan E. Axelrad
Regina L. Sun & Eric Chiang
Jane & M.T. Crump
Paula & John Cutler
Jim Ford & Melinda Lightsey-Ford
Peggy & John Glover
Linda & John Knudsen
Laura Lockridge
Michelle & Phillip Navratil
Sheila & Keith Owen Iii
Jennifer Delange & Joel Szulc
Allison & Ray Teheng
Claudia & Richard Toomey
Patricia & Barry Trachtenberg
Kelo & K. W. Waldorf
Anita & Todd Walker

Helpful Numbers & Info

Southampton/BOCA Patrol: 713-825-55555

The Patrol is a subscription-based organization (see page 4) and can assist with issues including:

- Individuals "camping" on private property
- Burglaries / Thefts
- Parking violations
- Excessive noise
- Vacation Watch service
- Investigating suspicious persons, suspicious activity, or solicitors, in the neighborhood

NOISE complaints can be made directly to the Police Department's non-emergency line at (713) 884-3131. HPD will dispatch officers to address the complaint. Per city ordinance, no noisy activities such as construction or yard work may begin before 7 a.m. Note: Some BOCA subdivisions have restrictions that further limit construction activities to weekdays.

Other Nuisances - Contact the 3-1-1 Helpline or 713-837-0311 from a cell phone, or use the **Houston-311 Mobile App**, or 311@houstontx.gov. Report illegal dumping, overgrown lots, visible nonworking motor vehicles, trash spilling over from construction sites, dangerous building, potholes, etc. A city inspector will be dispatched to investigate and determine if a violation exists. Property owners will be given time to comply and depending on the violation, if compliance is not met, fines may be assessed.

311 can also help with:

- Water Leaks, Water Service, Sewer and Wastewater
- Missed Trash and Recycling Collection
- Garbage Container Issues, Water Meter covers
- Traffic Signal & Sign Maintenance

Parking Enforcement: 832-393-8690

Contact the city's Parking Management Division for assistance with cars parked illegally or parked without displaying the required hang tags in Permit Parking zones. Parking Management officers write tickets and issue warnings.

If 311 fails to handle your request, contact the District C City Council office at 832-393-3004, DistrictC@HoustonTX.gov. Our Councilmember is the Honorable Abbie Kamin, who also chairs the Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee for City Council.

Subscribe to eNews & Crime Alerts

All neighbors are invited to subscribe to our electronic news and crime alerts list. To subscribe, send a message with your name and physical address to info@BoulevardOaks.org

BOCA Calendar of Events

- Oct. 6 **Night Out in Boulevard Oaks**
6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Distanced block gatherings are encouraged. Please follow CDC guidelines and any County stay-home orders.
- Nov. 3 **Election Day @ Poe Elementary**
7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Poe will be open on the 3rd, but voters may cast ballots at any polling location. Visit www.HarrisVote.org for more information about locations, early voting and ballots by mail.
- Dec. 13 **Caroling Party** 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.
Assuming regulations on large gatherings have been lifted, please join us for at the southwest corner of Poe for music, caroling, hayrides, Santa and more! See you Sunday, Dec. 13th.

BOCA Officers for 2020 – 2021

(July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020)

<i>President</i>	James Cogan
<i>President-elect</i>	Radu Tutos
<i>Vice president</i>	Jennifer Bush
<i>Treasurer</i>	Bob Wright
<i>Secretary</i>	Helen Toombs
<i>Past President</i>	Richard Holt
<i>Directors 2019 – 2020</i>	Joe Cialone Steve Grossman Stefan Murry Melissa Rabalais

2020 – 2022

Kristina Bush
Cece Fowler
Jean Jenner
Sue Payne

2018 – 2021

Trey Christensen
Sue Lawson
Julie Mastroianni
Harry Tindall

Committees

Deed Restrictions
Historic Districts
Public Works
Trees
Website
Photographer
Night Out
Caroling Party

Julie Mastroianni
Geoffrey Walker
John Cutler
Hank Segelke & Wallace Hooker
Dave Shine
Elaine Mut
James Cogan
Stephanie Pedigo & Shannon Allen

Spring Mixer
Easter Egg Hunt
4th of July Party

Vacant
Bonnie Coffman
Donna Yanowski, Sue Lawson
and Sue Payne

40th Celebration
Executive Director

Vacant
Evalyn Krudy

City Trash & Recycling Reminders

- 1) Place leaves and grass clippings in city approved bags and leave at the curb on trash day or have crews haul bags and debris away when servicing your lawn. Loose yard waste should not be dumped into trash or recycling containers.
- 2) Maintain 3 feet of width between bins to ensure proper operation of automated collection vehicle arm. Bin spacing speeds up collection and prevents spills.
- 3) If possible, limit parking on the street on trash day, and ensure there is enough space between vehicles and bins to allow crews to safely collect trash. Cars blocking bins may result in missed collection.
- 4) Report Missed Collection by calling 311, or 713-837-0311 from a cell phone. The City has 5 business days to return to collect missed trash. Calling early helps to ensure that crews return within the same week.
- 5) If you have excess trash that won't fit in your bin, the city offers "Tags for Bags" which are available for purchase at local grocery stores. The tags allow you to place your excess bagged waste at the curb on collection day.
- 6) Visit www.Houstontx.gov/solidwaste for more information about the city trash/recycling collection.

Recycling Rules

Place only clean recyclables in the bins. Dirty, drippy, smelly food containers are unwelcome additions and disrupt the recycling process through contamination.

Plastics - place only *CLEAN, hard plastic containers* in recycling bins. No plastic bags.

No Plastic Bags or wrappers of any kind in the Recycling bin. Soft and clean plastic bags can be recycled at local grocery stores.

Cardboard - Only Flattened Cardboard is allowed.

Styrofoam is not allowed in the city's green bins.

If excess recycling won't fit in your bin, you can visit the Westpark Recycling Center (WRC) near Fountain View St. where staff will unload your vehicle. Styrofoam and electronics are also accepted at the WRC.

City Trash & Recycling Schedule

- ✿ **Regular** curbside collection Tuesday
- ✿ **Yard Waste** (bagged/bundled) Tuesday
- ✿ **Recycling** (Tues. B): every other Tuesday

Sept. 1, 15 & 29 Oct. 13 & 27
Nov. 10 & 24 Dec. 8 & 22

Bins and yard waste bags may be placed at the curb after 6 p.m. the evening before collection. Remove bins from the curb by 10 p.m. on collection day.

✿ Heavy Trash

Tree debris is collected every month.

Junk waste is collected in **even** months only.

Blocks East of Greenbriar:1st Friday

Blocks West of Greenbriar:3rd Monday



Private Trash Schedule

Edgemont & Broadacres is collected by

WCA Waste: 281-368-8397

Household Trash & Yard Waste.....Tues. & Fri.

Recycling.....Friday

Heavy TrashBy request

Cherokee (5300 blocks of Cherokee & Mandell) is collected by Texas Pride Disposal. For more information contact customer service at 713-705-3534.

Your Letters:

"Kudos to Recycling Truck Driver"

James Vick writes: "On Tuesday evening, May 12th at 7:00 PM, a COH Solid Waste Dept. Recycling Truck driven by Mr. Dan Howard picked up my green recycling bin. I happened to be in my front yard to retrieve the bin. Our exchange of greetings was interrupted when Dan and I both realized that thick smoke was emitting from the back of his truck. Within a minute, an acrid pall of thick smoke was growing in intensity. He quickly exited the cab of his truck and climbed to the back to inspect the situation, by which time flames were visible. He grabbed a fire extinguisher from his cab, and I grabbed my garden hose. As a small crowd gathered, Dan began to pull burning debris out of the holding compartment to determine the extent of the fire. I am happy to report that within 10 minutes Dan had the fire extinguished. Clearly someone had tossed combustible material into a recycling bin that was still hot enough to ignite the contents of Dan's truck.

I wanted to let you know about Dan Howard and his very appreciated actions. We are fortunate to have many local heroes and Dan is right up there with the best of them." (Note: *Most refuse/ recycling truck fires are caused by improperly discarded items such as chemicals which interact once combined, and even discarded cigarettes left to smolder. Please empty all containers and rinse before recycling them.*)

Re-Use and Recycle Political Signs

Tis the season for political signs. Rather than throwing them away after the election, consider repurposing them using your creative skills.

Plasti-core signs that fit on metal stakes make a great bottom reinforcement for a reusable bag that will give it shape and stability for stacking groceries and other items. It's much more stable than the flimsy plastic that comes in the bottom of those bags. Just cut to fit! (Thanks to Elaine Mut for this great suggestion!) Additional re-use and DIY ideas can be found online.

BOCA's 40th Anniversary Celebration Needs You

Do you love a good party? Volunteers and ministers of fun are needed to help plan a celebration for our 40th anniversary celebration. To volunteer, contact info@BoulevardOaks.org.

So long, Stahlman's! Hello, Porsche!

Demolition of the 2.4-acre, former Stahlman Lumber property at Greenbriar and US59 began in mid-August. The new owner, Charlotte NC-based Sonic Automotive, will soon begin construction of a mid-rise Porsche dealership that includes a freeway-level showroom.

Sonic has pledged to protect the street trees planted by Boulevard Oaks Tree Program in the early 90s, and a licensed forester has also been engaged for the duration of the project. Although preservation of the street trees is planned, one may need to be removed for a new feeder road driveway. Designers for the project are also considering a BOCA request to screen the south side of the building with ivy.

Thanks to Sonic Automotive executives for resolving a longstanding safety issue at the Audi dealership on the north side of US59. This summer, Audi discontinued unloading and loading trailers along the feeder road and the new Porsche site is now being used for this activity, thanks to efforts by BOCA led by PW Chairman John Cutler. The new facility, set for completion in late 2021, will provide onsite trailer loading space for both dealerships.



I JUST SOLD

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