



Winlow Place

EST. 1923

The latest news from our neighborhood

UPCOMING EVENTS

WINLOW PLACE GENERAL MEETING

CANCELED

~~Thursday, March 19 @ 7:30 pm
at 1827 W Alabama~~

NEIGHBORHOOD SOCIALS

ON HIATUS

See page 3 for details

Get the latest updates by signing up for our email list at winlowplace.org.

President's Letter

By Greg Utterback

In response to Harris County COVID-19 virus recommendations to cancel or postpone events of any size, all Winlow Place Civic Club activities are suspended until additional guidance and clearance is received.

I had a draft President's Letter ready for this newsletter describing how excited I was about the 2020 Winlow Civic Club meetings and our coming events. And reading that letter now, it is surprisingly dated and tone deaf in a matter of two weeks.

Information from the County and City is coming quickly and hard to keep up with.

My message to everyone is to take care of each other in these trying times. Please feel free to email me with questions, concerns or needs. I will do all that I can to assist or provide guidance.

We will be stronger as we gather around the common cause of keeping everyone healthy. Thank you for staying vigilant and supportive of County and City directives.

Neartown News

By Kay Warhol

Yes! To Census 2020

A focus for the City of Houston this spring and summer is the 2020 Census. The census happens every ten years, and the count is used to determine the levels of funding and representation distributed to our communities. The City and County are putting significant resources into getting an accurate count. It is estimated that even a 1% undercount could jeopardize \$250 million in federally administered dollars for the area. Invitations to participate in Census 2020 will begin arriving by mail in mid-March and everyone should receive an invitation by Census Day, April 1. Once you receive the invitation, you can respond online, by phone, or by mail. There are only 9 questions and your responses cannot be shared with anyone. This summer (May–July), census workers will go door-to-door to homes that haven't responded to make sure everyone is counted. The City Planning Department (houstontx.gov/planning) is the lead coordinator for Houston. For general information on the census, see 2020census.gov.

Brazos Street Bridge – Rebuild or No?

The Brazos Street bridge on Spur 527 has been closed since July 2019 due to safety concerns. The original plan was to reconstruct the bridge; however Houston Public Works is now considering alternatives. These were discussed at a community meeting on February 10 with adjacent neighborhoods. Details on the options being considered are included in this Community Impact Newspaper article:

communityimpact.com/houston/heights-river-oaks-montrose/transportation/2020/02/20/with-brazos-street-bridge-gone-officials-consider-a-different-approach/.

Neartown meetings are open to all residents. For more info on Neartown meetings, other happenings in our community, useful resources, and to sign up for updates from Neartown, visit neartown.org.

Constable Patrol Update

By Michael Hawash

Contract Constable Program Gets Unanimous Community Support at Harris Commissioner's Court Hearing

On March 3, 2020, the future of the Contract Constable Program was thrown into a state of flux when Harris County Commissioner Adrian Garcia proposed a study to examine “any potential savings that may be realized by eliminating the ability of constables to enter into the [patrol] contracts.” Many viewed this proposal as a first step at eliminating the Contract Constable Program. The concern from the community-at-large that their deputies were about to be taken away was swift and overwhelming.

At a March 10, 2020 hearing at the Commissioner's Court, all 8 Harris County Constables and 118 concerned citizens signed up to voice their opinion about the proposal. At the beginning of the hearing and speaking to a packed courtroom that overflowed into the hallways, County Commissioner Steve Radack asked how many people present were there to voice criticism of the Contract Constable Program? The courtroom fell absolutely silent. Every single person present was there to voice support for the program and dismay that the benefits of having additional, largely community-funded police throughout Harris County was being called into question.

Speaking first were the duly elected Constables, both Democrat and Republican, representing each of the eight precincts in Harris County. Each Constable explained the value of the Contract Constable Program to their respective communities. According to the Constables, the various contracts within Harris County put an additional 1,015 uniformed police on the streets. Assuming each deputy is funded 80% by the community that means the county pays for one deputy, but gets five! Further, according to the Constables, last year alone, the Constables fielded over 400,000 calls for service that otherwise would have gone to the overstretched resources of the Houston Police Department and Harris County Sheriff's Department.

Next to speak were the 118 people who had signed up to comment on Commissioner Garcia's. After the third speaker voiced their unconditional support of the Constables, and it appeared that no one was going to speak against the contract deputy program, Commissioner Garcia summarily withdrew the proposal.

Needless to say, I and the other constable liaisons observing the proceedings were thrilled that a political threat to the program had been averted. However, we

will continue to monitor the Commissioner's Court schedule to make sure we speak up if further threats to the program emerge.

Become a subscriber at mwpatrol.org

Monthly Socials: On Hiatus Due to COVID-19

By Margo Fendrich

Out of caution due to the COVID-19 outbreak, Winlow Place Civic Club has decided to temporarily cancel our monthly socials and general meetings in order to ensure the health and safety of our neighbors.

This is in line with the CDC and Harris County's guidelines to cancel all non-necessary events that involve being in close proximity to one another.

We will continue to monitor the situation and will return to hosting socials when it is appropriate to do so. *Thank you for your understanding.*

**ALL WINLOW PLACE EVENTS
HAVE BEEN CANCELLED
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

Sign up for emails at winlowplace.org.

Resources for COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Updates

Here are a few trusted sources of news and information to help us get through this pandemic safely. Don't forget to check in on your neighbors and friends—via phone/text/skype/etc. of course!

- CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, a federal agency): cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html
 - This authoritative source has extensive information for almost all your questions: how to properly "social distance," how to effectively clean & disinfect, what to do if you're displaying symptoms, + more.
- City of Houston: houstonemergency.org/COVID19
 - The latest city updates, including on testing locations and business closures (e.g. restaurants, bars), can be found here.
- Harris County Public Health: publichealth.harriscountytexas.gov/Resources/2019-Novel-Coronavirus
 - * Access the latest County guidance for businesses, the general public, and more, in easy-to-read formats (found below "Community Resources").
 - See the latest updates on confirmed cases in the county.
 - Get information about county resources—including hotlines, mental health resources, and more.
 - This site also embeds the excellent Johns Hopkins global COVID-19 case tracker.
 - * The latest County Public Health Guidance (dated March 12, effective until March 31 unless otherwise noted) on events (of all sizes), workplaces, and more can be found at: tinyurl.com/HarrisCountyMarch12

WINLOWPLACE.ORG

Sign up for email updates, pay dues, and more

- *Heavy trash:* First Wednesday of the month. More info at: houstontx.gov/solidwaste/
- *Mandell-Winlow Constable Patrol:* mwpatrol.org
- *City of Houston questions:* Call 3-1-1
- *New neighbors in Winlow?* Tell our welcome committee at president@winlowplace.org.

2020 Winlow Place Board

President	Greg Utterback	Vice President	Margo Fendrich
Past President	Lindsey Aldrich Walsh	Treasurer	Denise Hanks
Secretary	Emily Miller	Neartown Assn Delegate	Kay Warhol
District 1 Representative	David Kreidler/ Ken Wiesehuegel	Deed Restrictions Officer	Ryan Hicks
District 2 Representative	Mike Hawash	Constable Patrol	Mike Hawash
District 3 Representative	Teresa Byrne-Dodge	Historian	Argo Georgandis

Block Captains

Have questions or concerns? Reach out to your block captain.

block	captain	contact info	block	captain	contact info
1700 Harold	Janet Ossmann	713.529.3191	1800 Kipling	Mike Hawash	713.417.1468
1800 Harold	Trang Flores		1900 Kipling	Luke Hawash	713.417.1468
1900 Harold	Ken Wiesehuegel	713.446.2472	1700 Marshall	Dave Dennison	713.203.3954
1700 Hawthorne	Pam Jenkins	713.927.2880	1800 Marshall	Ron Bland	713.703.6208
1900 Hawthorne	Marg. Nunez	713.529.2549	1900 Marshall	Denise Hanks	713.520.1277
1700 Kipling	Luke Hawash	713.417.1468	1800 W. Alabama	Maria Merrill	832.452.8280
			1700 W. Alabama	<i>open</i>	

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