

**CALENDAR**

**SATURDAY, NOV. 5**  
**Friends of Wood-**  
**land Park Family**  
**Movie Night**  
**Woodland Park**  
**8:00 PM**

**MONDAY, NOV. 7**  
**JUNK WASTE**  
**East of Watson**

**TUESDAY, NOV. 8**  
**GENERAL MEETING**  
**Travis Elementary**  
**and Hogg Middle**  
**School Principal**  
**meet-and-greet**  
**Zion, 7:30 PM**

**THURSDAY, NOV. 10**  
**RECYCLING**

**MONDAY, NOV. 14**  
**JUNK WASTE**  
**West of Watson**

**THURSDAY, NOV. 24**  
**RECYCLING**

**SATURDAY, DEC. 10**  
**LIGHTS IN THE**  
**HEIGHTS**  
**Bayland and Wood-**  
**land Streets**  
**6 PM to 9 PM**

**Zero Lot Line Development**

A controversial development style is popping up in various areas of Woodland Heights. Tagged “Zero Lot Line development” the style is currently being permitted by the City and is incongruent with the current style of our neighborhood.

This development style may result in your neighbor building to both side lot lines. and may require that you have unlimited access to adjacent properties during the construction phase and periodically thereafter for maintenance.

**Check your deed restrictions.** Many of our deed restrictions have front and side setbacks that prohibit

Zero Lot Line and must be observed. City Planning does not always take deed restrictions into consideration before approving permits. It is the obligation of the homeowner to ensure deed restriction compliance. In addition, consider getting a written agreement with adjacent property owners prior to commencing construction. An agreement now could avoid misunderstandings later.

If you oppose this development style, contact us for more info and a Zero Tolerance for Zero Lot Line Development” yard sign @ [info@preservewoodlandheights.org](mailto:info@preservewoodlandheights.org).  
- Vicky Bettis

**Proposed Heights Kroger**

City Council voted on October 26 to approve a 380 agreement for the proposed Kroger development on Studewood at Summer Street (across from Party Boy, adjacent to Arne's). This store will be very similar to the Shepherd and 11th store, oriented facing north with building placement on the southern parcel backing up to Summer Street.

Kroger is pursuing the 380 and the City's reimbursement for public infrastructure improvements surrounding the site, which include: sanitary sewer upgrades, traffic management/signal installation, rebuilding of Summer Street from Studewood to Diesel, as well as beautification elements. In addi-

tion, Kroger would also provide \$40,000 to Olivewood Cemetery.

The planned opening date for this Kroger is late 2012.

**WHCA November General Meeting**

November 8th at 7:30 at Zion Lutheran Church. Principals from Travis Elementary and Hogg Middle School will meet-and-greet to educate us on their schools and the opportunities at them for our school-age children. There are many opportunities for adults at each school to help, mentor and volunteer! Hope to see you there!



Mark your calendars! Lights in the Heights will take place on December 10. Planning for this year's event is well underway. We have a great volunteer team that is aiming to make LITH an event that the whole neighborhood will enjoy. This year, following the wishes of our residents and the City of Houston, the LITH committee is making a concerted effort to reduce the crowds and starting the movement to return this to more of a neighborhood event. In doing this we have decided to make some changes. The most evident change is that we will be returning to two streets. The route this year is Bayland and Woodland Streets with the hours of 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Other modifications to the structure of the evening include the cessation of on-site vending, the parade and entertainment on the Norhill Esplanade. While we are sure that some our residents will not agree with the direction we are going, please realize that if we want the event to continue at all, changes must be made.

Another item that cannot be stressed enough is that all parking signs must be observed on the day of event. HPD will be actively ticketing. If you see a No Parking sign or cone DO NOT park there or you will be ticketed and/or towed. We are going to do our best to make sure all our residents are aware of this.

If you have any questions, please contact Glen Sementelli [gsementelli@yahoo.com](mailto:gsementelli@yahoo.com), 281-772-3529 or Terri Guerra [terri@terriguerra.com](mailto:terri@terriguerra.com) 713-598-3043.

### **We need your support!**

With only two months left, we need the support of our Woodland Heights neighbors. You have four different opportunities to show your support for this year's event. With the annual event now drawing more than 40,000 attendees, we are concerned with safety, operations and keeping our neighborhood clean. Your donation to the Woodland Heights Civic Association will help us achieve these goals. We have neighbor donor lev-

els of Platinum Supporter for \$100, Shining Supporter for \$50 and Twinkle Supporter for \$25. Or team up with your neighbors and sign up as a Block Supporters for \$200. Email Greg Foley at [greg.foley@pobox.com](mailto:greg.foley@pobox.com) or Stephanie Fruge at [stephanie.fruge@gmail.com](mailto:stephanie.fruge@gmail.com). We greatly appreciate your support and donation!

### **Calling all local businesses!**

Don't be left out of this year's event. Support the Woodland Heights Civic Association and advertise your local business during this year's Lights in the Heights event on Saturday, December 10, 2011. We have a limited number of sponsorship opportunities available for local businesses. For more information or to sign up to be a sponsor, email Greg Foley at [greg.foley@pobox.com](mailto:greg.foley@pobox.com) or Stephanie Frugé at [stephanie.fruge@gmail.com](mailto:stephanie.fruge@gmail.com).

Thank you to our sponsors so far:

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### **Are you hungry?**

The Lights in the Heights committee is proud to announce a promotion to raise funds leading up to this year's event. The Woodland Heights Civic Association will be selling a 10%-off promotion to 10 local Heights restaurants that will be good for 10 days—Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup> through Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. How much will this cost you? Only a \$10 donation to Woodland Heights Civic Association. WHCA will be selling them beginning November 14<sup>th</sup> through the WHCA website and local retailers and restaurants. This is a great way for neighbors to support Lights in the Heights as well as the local restaurants who have signed up to support our neighborhood. We will also run a list of participating restaurants in the December newsletter. For more information, email Stephanie Frugé at [Stephanie.fruge@gmail.com](mailto:Stephanie.fruge@gmail.com).

## LITH Decorating for the Elderly and Disabled

In the spirit of the season there will be a group of volunteers that will help those who would like to participate in Lights in the Heights but find it difficult to decorate the exterior of their homes. If you live on the LITH route (Bayland and Woodland) and you or your neighbor are physically unable to decorate the exterior of your home and would like some help, please contact Taff Weinstein via cell phone or email below. We have donated lights, but will use your decorations if you prefer.

*\* This offer is designed for the elderly and disabled who are unable to decorate the exterior of their homes.*

*\* We will be decorating on Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9 am until approximately noon.*

Some FAQ answers:

1. We will not decorate the porch of a home without the owner's permission.
2. We can decorate the exterior of the house next door with your electricity.
3. Yes, it's free



### LIKE us on Facebook!

Lights in the Heights has a Facebook page that will help you keep up to date with all the latest news and announcements.

[www.facebook.com/lightsintheheights](http://www.facebook.com/lightsintheheights)

## Local Author Book Signing

Woodland Heights resident, Omar Holguin, will be signing copies of his book, "Recollections: A History of the Woodland Heights and Surrounding Communities", at the following locations and times: The Lift, 365 W. 19th Street (near Ashland), Thursday, Nov. 10th, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. and Kaboom Books, at the intersection of Houston Ave. and Bayland Ave., Saturday, Nov. 12th, 4 p.m. to 7 pm. Omar will also be selling and signing at the Houston History Book Fair & Symposium, Saturday, Nov. 12, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Heights Church of Christ, Heights Blvd. at 16th Street. Admission is free.

## New Area Independent Middle School Created

A group of local teachers, parents and community members are starting a new independent school in the Heights area, opening fall 2012. Po'no Ragazzi International Academy (grades 4-8) will be holding their final parent and community meeting on Saturday, Nov. 12, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Old Methodist Church (in the main hall), 600 Shepherd. Visit their web site [www.ponoragazzi.com](http://www.ponoragazzi.com) or contact Mary Ellen Aylward Wolf at [mewolf@ponoragazzi.com](mailto:mewolf@ponoragazzi.com) for more information.

## Special Invitation for WHCA members!

A special tour of the Federal Reserve Bank on Allen Parkway is being planned for all residents of Woodland Heights who have paid their dues for the April 2011–March 2012 year. The fall tour date will be announced in the next newsletter.

Not a member? Been meaning to send your payment? Simply submit your dues via check or Paypal. Dues are so inexpensive, \$35 for home owners and \$10 for renters and seniors. Why become a member? The neighborhood association works hard to bring you fun events, informative speakers, and beautiful landscaped esplanades. We hope you'll consider supporting Woodland Heights!

## Woodland Park Movie Night

The next FREE Movie Night at Woodland Park (the corner of Parkview and Houston Ave.) is Saturday, Nov. 5th starting at 7:30 p.m. (or when it gets dark enough!). The evening's feature is "A League of Their Own", (rated PG) starring Tom Hanks, Geena Davis, and Madonna. This comedy is about two sisters who join the first female professional baseball league and struggle to help it succeed.

The movie will be shown in the grassy area on the east side of the community building. We will have free lemonade and popcorn, but feel free to bring a picnic. We encourage all to either walk or ride your bikes as parking is limited. Bring your lawn chairs or blankets, and don't forget the bug spray!

Questions? Contact Becky Houston or Beth Fischer at [info@friendsofwoodlandpark.org](mailto:info@friendsofwoodlandpark.org)

*Editor's note: We are pleased to introduce a new, recurring column written by student correspondents from Travis Elementary and Hogg Middle School.*

### Travis Elementary to celebrate Park ReSpark and Thanksgiving

After the hard work of many in our community, the day we have been waiting for arrives as our Travis Park gets its ReSpark Dedication on Friday, November 18 at 1 p.m. The whole community is invited to celebrate with us. The ceremony is going to include every kid and each grade level will wear shirts of a certain color as we march out on the track. We will have dancing and fun and public speakers. It will last for thirty minutes. There will be seats in the field and a stage for the public speakers along with decorations for the celebration. *By Charles Ables, Nicolas Bell, and Noah Ryan Sears, Tiger Press Correspondents*

In November, Travis invites our wonderful community of Travis parents and family members to a Thanksgiving Feast as a token of our thanks. The Feast will take place during the lunch time of your student either on November 17 or 18 depending on the grade level. We will be enjoying turkey with dressing, mashed potatoes, green beans, and pumpkin pie. We hope to see you there. *By Cooper Perry, Andres Longoria, and Vaughn Corson, Tiger Press Correspondents*

### Hogg Students Offer Help in Time of Need

Hogg students lent a helping hand to students at Magnolia Jr. High to help them overcome the devastation caused by recent forest fires.

Ms. Janie LaGrone, Hogg's Parent and Student Support Coordinator, said she and others first heard about the devastation by listening to the local radio station KSBJ. They said many of the Magnolia students had lost everything when their homes burned down. "It has been a wonderful experience for our students to feel the joy that comes from doing something wonderful for someone during their time of need," said Ms. LaGrone. She said the students were very grateful for the donations which included school supplies, clothing, food and water bottles. So much was gathered that a truck had to be borrowed to deliver it all.

From Hogg, Mr. Troy Ramirez, IT Customer Service Representative, volunteered to drive the supplies to Magnolia Jr. High. Along with him came Ms. Lagrone and two eighth grade students, Alyssa Tenore and Nathaniel Mladenka.

Magnolia Junior High's Principal Brad Schnautz, expressed in a letter to Hogg his gratitude to the students, parents and faculty. "The graciousness and outpouring of support demonstrated by the HMS community has greatly benefitted our students during this difficult time," he said.

*By Jennifer Gutierrez, Sabrina Solomon, and Abigail Nieto, Razorback Press Correspondents*

### TPSP at Hamilton Middle School

Alexander Hamilton Middle School is seeking dedicated and motivated mentors to help guide their Vanguard students in research and field study for the Texas Performance Standards Project (TPSP).

All interested are invited to an informational meeting on Tuesday, November 15, 2011, 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Hamilton Middle School's auditorium, 139 E. 20th St., 713-802-4737.

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### Security Patrol Update

Thank you to all of you that have spent time and money to make this a reality!

The annual cost is \$315.00, payable via PayPal (\$315.00 + \$10.00 processing fee), or by check payable to the Woodland Heights Civic Association. To pay using PayPal or obtain the WHCA mailing address, visit [www.woodland-heights.org/constablepatrol.htm](http://www.woodland-heights.org/constablepatrol.htm).

### September Constable Patrol Statistics

Accidents	1 (major)
Alarms	2
Business check	20
Park check	18
Information calls	70
Special assignment	1
Stranded vehicle	2
Welfare Check	1
Suspicious Persons	1
Traffic warnings, citations and arrests	35

## Winter Bird Care Alert

Every fall, millions of birds head south from their northern breeding grounds to spend the winter in warmer climates. Many of these birds choose the southern U.S. (including Texas) as their winter homes. As wintering birds arrive in Houston this fall, they are faced with the effects of this year's devastating drought. The death of so many bushes and trees has severely impacted the available food supply for these visitors, as well as residents such as chickadees, titmice, cardinals, jays, and doves.


What can you do? Put up bird feeders and provide a source of water. Seed feeders are easy-use black oil sunflower seeds for best results. Wintering goldfinches thrive on thistle from dedicated thistle feeders. and suet feeders provide valuable protein for non-seedeaters such as woodpeckers and kinglets. Many people do not realize that several

species of western hummingbirds winter on the Gulf Coast. Keep your hummingbird feeders up all year! Don't forget the water where cats can't reach. If you can't put up feeders, consider donating birdseed to the Arboretum, which has an active feeding program. You can make a difference—the lives of many birds may depend on it.

*Bill Eley, Program Development Director,  
Houston Arboretum & Nature Center*

## Yard of the Month

Our neighbors at 909 Euclid show off their classic Woodland Heights bungalow with a tidy garden and show-stopping potted ferns. Simplicity at its best and a winning combination for the fall and winter months. We were especially impressed that the homeowner does all the gardening and yard work herself!



**New Book About Our Neighborhood!**  
**Recollections: A History of the Woodland Heights and Surrounding Communities**  
 By Woodland Heights Resident Omar Holguin  
 History • Vintage Photos • Maps  
 Available Now on Amazon.com or www.createspace.com/3582355



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## Woodland Heights Civic Association

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### MAKE A LASTING IMPRESSION!

Don't forget you can order custom-engraved bricks for the Norhill Plaza Esplanade for as little as \$100.

For more information, visit the WH website:

[www.woodland-heights.org](http://www.woodland-heights.org) or  
[beautification@woodland-heights.org](mailto:beautification@woodland-heights.org)

### Read your news online instead!

Save a tree and your civic association some cash at the same time by opting to receive your newsletter online. The money the WHCA saves in printing and mailing costs can be used instead for neighborhood programs. Send your name, email and mailing address to [newsletter@woodland-heights.org](mailto:newsletter@woodland-heights.org)

**The Woodland Heights Newsletter** is a publication of the Woodland Heights Civic Association (WHCA), and seeks to keep the community informed of board activities and developments of interest to area residents.

**WHCA General Meetings** are held the second Tuesday of every month (except June, July, August and December). Unless otherwise noted, meetings are located in the meeting room at Zion Lutheran Church, 3606 Beauchamp.

#### WHCA Contact Information

P.O. Box 7754 Houston, TX 77270-7754

Tel: 713-200-3610

Website: [woodland-heights.org](http://woodland-heights.org)

#### Advertising Information

Monthly advertisement fees are \$50/month for a 1.75 x 3 inch (approximately business card size) advertisement/promotions block. The WHCA Board will review all applications for advertisement. Individuals interested in becoming WH Newsletter advertisers should contact the Newsletter Interim Chair, Maryellen Quarles, at [newsletter@woodland-heights.org](mailto:newsletter@woodland-heights.org) for further details and pricing for larger blocks. Checks are payable to the Woodland Heights Civic Association at the above address.

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