



# BOCA NEWSLETTER

BOULEVARD OAKS CIVIC ASSOCIATION

JANUARY 2005

## RECENT BOCA MEMBERS

BOCA memberships received since the last *BOCA Newsletter* (October 2004), are listed below. **Thank you very much for your support—BOCA couldn't operate without it!** If you haven't already joined BOCA, please take a moment to do so now. A membership form can be download from our web site: [www.boulevardoaks.org](http://www.boulevardoaks.org).

### Patron Members

Susan & Michael Bono  
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Janet Luther  
R. Patrick MacDaniel  
Mary Julia & Don Macune

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### Sustaining Members

Monica & Juan Alonso  
Gerardo Amelio

### Regular Members

Alex Camfield & Peter Heitmann  
Julie Baker  
Stewart Baker

*Thank you!!*

## BOCA'S ANNUAL CAROLING EVENT

*by Joanna Reid*

The Boulevard Oaks Carolers came out again this year on Monday, December 20th to serenade the neighborhood. Meeting at the Donald Reid home on South Boulevard, approximately 70 residents enjoyed the evening and entertained the families on South Boulevard between Mandell and Hazard. Santa dropped in and yummy refreshments added to the evening's festivities. Even the weather cooperated. It was truly a family affair with all ages represented. Special thanks to Donald Reid, Jr. and Martha Rodriguez for making the hot mulled cider, and to Jeannette Burg for the delicious hot chocolate. Also, special thanks to Tony Riedel for the generous donation of barbecue sandwiches (courtesy of Hickory Hollow restaurant). And many thanks to Marsha Eatherton, Toni Wallingford, Dorry Shaddock, Janet Spencer, Susan Hirtz, Bridget Earthman, Marjorie Hutcheson, Mary Frappier, Paula Cutler, Linda Gay, Jennifer Ramani, Shelby Nielsen and Laurie Lee for the sandwiches and desserts and other delicious goodies for the carolers. Many others brought refreshments that evening, too—what a great response!

Many thanks, also, to our song leaders, Evalyn Krudy and Ted Hirtz, to Sue Lawson, our guiding light, who assembled the songs into booklets, and to Harry Lawson, Don Reid and Francis, Nick and Jack Nugent for helping set up and decorate the canopies and the esplanade. Charles Orsburn aka Santa Claus spent the evening entertaining the children and listening intently to their requests. We love your Christmas spirit, Charles! This traditional holiday happening is a great event and a wonderful way to connect with friends and neighbors during the holiday season. See you next December!

## UNIVERSITY PLACE REPORT

*by Kathie Easterly*

The University Place Association (UPA) recently prepared its Super Neighborhood Action Plan (SNAP) for 2005. This year's SNAP includes requests for sidewalks, street paving, traffic signalization, street closures, etc., in University Place. To review this year's SNAP request online, you can go to: [houstonplanning.com](http://houstonplanning.com). These requests were submitted via civic club representatives to the UPA Board of Directors and from businesses and institutions within University Place boundaries (Main Street, US59, North Braeswood, and Kirby Drive).

Recently, UPA, along with residents, civic clubs and businesses in the University Place area, including the Houston Zoo, the Texas Medical Center, the Rodeo Association, the South Main Center Association, M.D. Anderson Cancer Institute and Reliant Stadium joined in opposing Riverside General Hospital's application to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice to locate a parolee residential and outpatient drug treatment facility for some 200 criminals including 60 on a full-time residential basis and more than 100 on an outpatient basis at 1803 Old Spanish Trail (O.S.T. @ Fannin). Riverside General provided conflicting information about the client population to be served, on the one hand identifying them as parolees under court-ordered supervision and on the other as persons receiving treatment in lieu of incarceration. We never received confirmation of whether violent offenders and sex offenders would be eligible for the program. Neither Riverside General nor the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) provided documentation or any information regarding Riverside General's prior experience with drug treatment programs for parolees or offenders, or any confirmation that the building in which the facility is to be located is designed to house residents under court ordered supervision, and the building has enough rooms to serve substantially more than the 60 full-time residential parolees originally proposed. Shortcomings in the facility, program definition and management are of particular concern because many vulnerable populations travel through and receive services in the immediate area.

Houston is 600 square miles large and an inordinate number of halfway houses, residential substance abuse facilities, homeless shelters, etc., are placed inside The Loop within four or five miles of each other. This particular facility raised many questions which were not answered sufficiently. We just learned this week that TDCJ denied Riverside's application for funding, however the reason(s) for denial have not been made public and we don't know if there is an appeal process or if this is the final answer from TDCJ and the end of this issue. We'll keep you posted.

As the officially designated liaison on the upcoming Kirby Flood Relief Project, UPA also continues to work with the City of Houston to facilitate as smooth a project as possible and to secure amenities for Kirby Drive beyond the minimal amenities included in this 4-year-long, highly disruptive project. The Kirby Coalition is seeking funding for amenities and lobbying the City to include enhancement/beautification funds for this project. The utility companies continue to move their lines and construction on Segment One (Brays Bayou to Dorrington) will soon begin in earnest. For more information on this project, visit the Kirby Coalition website: [kirbycoalition.org](http://kirbycoalition.org).

## Tree Pruning to Begin This Month

*by Evalyn Krudy*

Trees for Boulevard Oaks is a project of the Boulevard Oaks Civic Association, working in conjunction with Trees for Houston, whose goal is to replenish, maintain, and extend the original street tree pattern in our neighborhood. Each year the committee hosts several tree pruning dates on which our volunteers attend to the young street trees planted by our program in the past three to seven years to ensure that they achieve a shape that will give them the best chances for survival.

In early February, Tree Committee volunteers will be pruning neglected young street trees planted by our program throughout the neighborhood. The first pruning date will be Saturday, February 5 at 9:00 a.m. when volunteers will meet at Picnic on Bissonnet near Hazard. If you do not want the young trees in front of your home pruned by our trained volunteers, please call the office at 713-528-2622 by Monday, January 31, 2005. Clearly state your name and address, and why you are calling. If you have previously notified BOCA that you do not wish to have your trees pruned, you do not need to call again. For questions about pruning or to volunteer, call George Howe at 713-528-4693.

## BOCA Subdivision Strengthens Its Deed Restrictions *by Evalyn Krudy*

Congratulations to the residents of Cresmere Place-West Ormond Place (aka CWO). Recently owners of property in this small subdivision just north of Poe Elementary met with one another over several sessions and agreed upon, signed and recorded Modifications to their Deed Restrictions effective December 3, 2004. These restrictions incorporate new provisions that increase their effectiveness and enforceability. The restrictions establish the Cresmere Place/West Ormond Place Civic Association which is responsible for enforcing the new restrictions and reviewing plans prior to construction. To support these efforts the association will begin collecting modest dues in 2005.

The following properties are subject to the modified restrictions: 1921 through 2050 Banks and 1921 through 2051 Milford. New provisions created an Architectural Review Committee to screen proposed new construction/ modification plans, enacted a maximum height restriction on homes and outbuildings, made changes in setback and fence height restrictions, eliminated prior unconstitutional and racial restrictions, added new provisions allowing very restrictive home occupation/work from home use without burdening their neighborhood with additional parking which would result from allowing commercial activities, and added a variance procedure. PDF copies of these new restrictions for CWO may be obtained by contacting [phutcheson@gardere.com](mailto:phutcheson@gardere.com).

Because BOCA is an umbrella organization comprised of 22 subdivisions ranging from four to nearly four hundred households in size, it does not have the means to enforce deed restrictions for its 1250 households. CWO and other Civic Clubs within BOCA's boundaries serve an important function by providing an organized means to enforce deed restrictions. On the other hand, BOCA serves as the collective voice for the area on a wide variety of issues such as quality of life, preservation of neighborhood character, infrastructure, transit and public safety. The new association's role is separate from BOCA's, but each organization complements the other and strives to protect property values and neighborhood character.

### City Trash Schedule

Automated curbside collection	Tuesdays
Yard Waste (bagged)	Tuesdays
Heavy Trash	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs.

**Recycling is collected every *other* Tuesday.**

Jan. 4 & 18    Feb. 1 & 15    Mar. 1, 15 & 29

Questions? Call 311

### Private Trash Schedule

(Edgemont, Broadacres, Cherokee)

Curbside & alley collection	Tues. & Fri.
Recycling	Every Friday
Yard waste	Tues. & Fri.

Call to arrange Heavy trash pickup

Royal Disposal & Recycling    713-526-1536

## POE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL WINDOW REPLACEMENT PROJECT

As you know, BOCA applied for a \$10,000 matching grant from the Texas Historical Commission (THC) for the replacement of Poe Elementary School windows with windows appropriate to the architecture of the building. Although we were not selected as a recipient of the matching grant, we're happy to report that the neighborhood raised close to \$10,000 for this project. We're even happier to report that H.I.S.D. recently agreed to fund the 21 emergency windows as well as 20 additional windows—great news for Poe and the Boulevard Oaks neighborhood!

Most of the residents and friends who donated to the window replacement project decided to leave their contributions in the tax-exempt Poe PTO fund earmarked for expenditure on other exterior capital improvement projects at Poe, such as, but not limited to, a wrought-iron fence to replace the existing chain link fence, the replacement of the long-missing weather vane atop the cupola, and/or similar projects. These funds will be administered by a joint BOCA/Poe PTO committee.

We thank each and every one of you for your generous contribution and commitment to preserving the architectural and historical integrity of our lovely neighborhood school. A special thanks to Sallie Wright and Marjorie Hutcheson who worked long and hard to raise this money for Poe School. Contributors are listed below:

Mary Alderson  
Eddie and Chinhui Allen  
Sarah Balinskas  
Marion Barthelme and Jeff Fort  
Cece and Mack Fowler  
Karen and Philip Beekman  
Dr. and Mrs. W.E. Bosarge  
Martha and Sam Bowen  
Mary and Steve Bradshaw  
Helen and John Cates  
Kathryn and Hank Coleman  
Cathy and Bill Comiskey  
The Denton Cooley Foundation  
Charlotte Cosgrove  
Marianne and Carter Crain  
Patsy Craven  
Judy and Bill Crisp  
Bonnie and Dan Cromack  
Sara and Rob Cromie  
John, Paula and Leigh Cutler  
Kathy DeLange  
James Donnell and Christina Zunker  
Brigid and Tom Earthman  
Kathie Easterly  
Erik Eriksson  
Stephanie and Clinton Fox  
Elizabeth and Jamie Gerson  
Dolores Goble  
Anne and Tony Gorry

Nonya and Jonathan Grenader  
Pam and Ron Gross  
Paula and John Hansen  
Phyllis Hargis  
Terri Hudler-Hull and Kurt Hull  
Chaille and Tom Hutcheson  
Marjorie and Palmer Hutcheson  
Linda and Bob Ittner  
Josephine and Phil John  
Julie and Peter Johnson  
Anna and Gregg Jones  
Marianne and Rob Jones  
Kathy and Ron Kahanek  
Bessie Kaldis  
Susan Keeton  
Betty and Jim Key  
Edith and William Kraft  
Sally Lehr  
Thad and Eric Lueders  
Marley Lott  
Mary Julia and Don Macune  
Dana and Clark Maloney  
Dorothy Marchand  
Jacki and Frank McCreary  
Dr. R.E. Milani  
Jackie Miller  
Fan and Peter Morris  
Alma and Ed Novotny

Mary and Paul Nugent  
Brian O'Donnell  
Val Perkins  
Jenny and Hal Perkins  
Joanna and Don Reid  
Elizabeth Rice  
Janet and Paul Sanders  
Wanda and Paul Schenck  
Debbie and Ted Schultz  
Annita and Newton Schwartz  
George and Behnaz Smalley  
Leigh and Reginald Smith  
Ann and Bill Sparker  
Janet and Gordon Spencer  
Robin and Geoffrey Stait  
Chrissie and Mark Stamey  
Jeanette and Frank Stokes  
Kathy and Tom Tellepsen  
Carol and Jim Tompkins  
Glo Trigg and George Melton  
Merri Schneider-Vogel and Michael Vogel  
Toni and Ralph Wallingford  
Cad and Byron Willeford  
Mindy Willeford  
Sallie and Bob Wright

*Southampton/BOCA Patrol Service*

*713-825-5555*