



# THE BOCA NEWSLETTER

BOULEVARD OAKS CIVIC ASSOCIATION

OCTOBER 2004

## MOST RECENT BOCA MEMBERS

In the last *BOCA Newsletter* (August 2004), we listed the residents who had joined BOCA by August 16, when the newsletter went to press. Memberships received since then 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

Charles Babcock & Nancy Hamilton  
Lisa & Scott Bowers  
Dr. Robert & Ellen K. Hirschfeld  
Edna Houston  
Neil McCabe/Kay Peterson  
Kelly & John Mooz  
Fan & Peter Morris  
Porcha & Mark Muller  
Mary & Paul Nugent  
Bryan Peters & Ralph Sikes  
The Train Station  
Susan & J. Anthony Walter  
Tom & Anna Fay Williams  
Zidell Properties

Deborah English-Jones & Philip Jones  
Marianne & Rob Jones  
Kathy & Ron Kahanek  
April & Doug Konopka  
Elliot Levin & Lisa Taaffe  
Sallie Morian & Mike Clark  
Karen & Robert Nimon  
Ellen & Charles Orsburn  
Kari & Mark Parsons  
Sally G. Quast  
Robert Rabalais  
Michelle & Cliff Shedd  
Ronald Sommers  
Hazel L. Turner  
Eve & Sheldon Weisfeld  
Patricia & Paul Winkler  
Margaret & Michael Young

Julia & Larry Elliott  
Terri & John Fiedler  
Hillel Foundation Of Greater Houston  
Brent & Michele Friedman  
Evangeline Gilley  
Virginia Gilliland  
Carlos L. Guerguin & John Crossman  
Sue & Robert Harris  
Colin Hendricks & Mimi Hu  
Michelle Hicks  
Thomas Hill Hooks  
Katherine & George Howe  
Clare & Guy Jackson  
June Ferrill & George P. Jones  
Mrs. Florence H. Jordan  
Neil Kelly & Heather Brown  
Dr. Tony & Courtney Kim  
Heather & Markus Klaehn  
Lynn Langston & Jan Koenig  
Steven Craig & Janet Kohlhase  
Jennifer & Kirk Kuykendall  
Francesca & Jeff London  
James Uyeki &  
Mary Campbell Somerville  
Julie & John Mastroianni  
Marsha Mcguire  
Kevin Mistry

Theodorah & Joseph Morgan  
Crista & Jonathan Paul  
Howard Pieper  
Susana & Antonio Pinho  
Robert E. Plumb  
Bridget & Burke Purdie  
Sally G Quast Properties  
Lynn Randolph  
Donald J. Reid, Jr.  
Fred Sawin  
Jay Seegers  
Cynthia Seeman  
Judith S. Shrader  
The Silver Shop, Steven Sommers  
George & Behnaz Smalley  
Laurel & Louis C. Smith  
Mary Thornhill  
Anya & Mark Tish  
Martha Tompkins  
Mark Ullmann  
Ennedy & Nick A. Vamvakias  
Toni & Ralph Wallingford  
Janet & Rich Wheeler  
Kara & Michael Williams

### Sustaining Members

John S. Baldwin & Wesley J. Baldwin  
Sue Barnum  
Maryke Cramerus  
Renee & Benjamin Danziger  
Isaiah J. Fidler & Margaret Kripke  
Dr. Morton & Sandra Friedman  
Patricia & Steven Grossman

### Regular Members

Karen Amerman  
Hazel & Sigurd E. Andersen  
Marian R. Anderson  
Scott & Heather Barnes  
Amaryllis Blaiklock  
Carolyn Colias  
Dean Dalton

## Poe Carnival

There will be food, fun and games at Poe Elementary, 5100 Hazard at the Annual Poe Elementary Carnival on Saturday, October 30th from 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Live entertainment, free admission, free parking, rain or shine—join the fun and support Poe Elementary! Adults and children both will be in costumes or Carnival T-Shirts. T-shirts are for sale at Poe during the week before the carnival. A special guest this year will be the TEXANS MASCOT. The Jail and the Dunking Booth, Water Wars, the Maze, the Hay Scramble, the Football Toss, the Spook House, face and hair painting, Jurassic Toss, moon walks and the ever-popular confetti eggs—there's something fun for everyone. And as always—great food! Enjoy the famous Poe Spaghetti, hot dogs, pizza, Mexican food, salads, spring rolls, cotton candy, popcorn, snow cones, sodas and the not-to-be-missed Dessert Shoppe. Call Donna Blackshear-Reynolds at 713-304-3336 for more information.

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## ELECTION TIPS

By Sue Lawson

The national election on November 2, 2004 is expected to have a large turnout. If you have recently moved, you may want to check your registration online at [www.hcvoter.com](http://www.hcvoter.com). You must vote where you are registered. Please be aware that if you request a mail ballot, **YOU CANNOT VOTE** in person, unless you **BRING IN THE MAIL BALLOT**. Also, you must have a picture ID to vote.

Most of Boulevard Oaks votes in Precinct 40, at Poe School, but south of Bissonnet votes at Christ the King Lutheran Church in the Rice Village, and west of Shepherd votes at the LaQuinta Motor Inn at 4015 US59. You can VOTE EARLY October 18-29 at the Metropolitan Multi-Service Center, 1475 West Gray, and a few other places around town. During the last week before the election, the hours are 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m., which is very convenient. If you'd like to see a sample ballot before you head to the polls, go to [harrisvotes.org](http://harrisvotes.org) and type in Precinct 40.



## BOCA'S 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL OLD FASHIONED CAROLING EVENT

A flyer giving you the details about BOCA's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Holiday Caroling Event in December will be delivered to your homes in the near future. Last year's event was a wonderful evening full of singing, merriment, fabulous food, and genuine holiday spirit. Santa was at his all-time best, smiling and singing and posing for photos, and listening intently to the heartfelt requests and desires of little ones' hearts. All you need is a small flashlight and some holiday spirit. A great singing voice is not required. If you would like to contribute food and goodies, or be a hostess at one of the tables along the caroling route, or otherwise help with this event, please call Sue Lawson at 713-526-6400.

### City Trash Schedule

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

Recycling is collected every *other* Tuesday.

Nov. 9 & 23   Dec. 7 & 21   Jan. 4 & 18

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

**For the latest neighborhood news, check BOCA's web site**

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

## Poe-Co Registration Begins November 1st

If you are the parent of a preschooler, grab a crayon and circle November 1st on your calendar. That's the day registration begins for Poe Cooperative Nursery School's 2005-2006 school year. Poe-Co is offering tours of the school at 8:00 a.m. on the following dates:

Friday October 22nd  
Thursday October 28th  
Monday November 8th  
Thursday November 18th

Taking a tour is a requirement for registration. Children must turn 3 years of age by September 1 to be eligible for enrollment in the 3 to 4-year-old class. Poe-Co also offers two 4 to 5-year-old classes, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. Please contact Jill Gilbert at [jill.r.gilbert@us.pwc.com](mailto:jill.r.gilbert@us.pwc.com) or 713-356-8019 for more tour and registration information.

Because Poe-Co is a cooperative preschool, it allows parents the unique opportunity to be involved in their child's classroom and education. Each student's mother or father serves as a parent-helper approximately one morning a month. For more information on Poe-Co please visit our website at [www.poeco.org](http://www.poeco.org).



### Halloween Party At Fleming Park

(Sunset Blvd. @ Kent)  
Sunday, October 31, 2004  
4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Wear your scariest costume and join us for tricks and treats!  
We'll have  
Prizes, Pizza, and Treats for everyone.

The Halloween Party is brought to you by the Friends of Fleming Park. Volunteers are needed to help with face painting and activities.

Call Karen Baughn at 713-523-0654 for more info.

## UNIVERSITY PLACE REPORT

The University Place Association (UPA) is, as always, working hard on behalf of the community. Many of you may have heard about Zodiac Lounge's recent request for a variance of the Offstreet Parking Ordinance in the 2400 block of Rice Blvd. in the Rice Village. UPA, Weingarten Realty, Lamesa Properties, BOCA, Morningside Place Civic Association, Southampton Extension Civic Club, Southgate Civic Club, and other residential and business stakeholders appeared before the Planning Commission to successfully protest this request for a variance. Parking has long been a major problem in the Rice Village and merchants, as well as adjacent residential neighborhoods, must rely on strict enforcement of the city's Offstreet Parking Ordinance. UPA was instrumental in drafting the current Offstreet Parking Ordinance and initiated the drafting of Houston's Decal Parking Ordinance. The Rice Village was a key factor in the drafting of both ordinances. Many of the Rice Village businesses were grandfathered when the Offstreet Parking Ordinance was passed, so there is already a shortage of parking in the Village. Granting variances would create more problems and open the door to other businesses opening in the Village without sufficient parking. Neighboring businesses and adjacent residential neighborhoods suffered for many years from overflow parking problems created by businesses operating without adequate parking for their customers. The Rice Village is a much sought after location for clubs, bars and restaurants these days. Reportedly, there are six or seven inquiries each month about opening new ones. There are currently 57 bars and restaurants in the Village.

UPA has also been working with the City of Houston and the Southampton Extension Civic Club to have sidewalks installed on Morningside from Rice Blvd. to Bissonnet. This area of Morningside is quite dangerous to navigate on foot since people literally have to walk in the street or the right-of-way (where it isn't landscaped to the edge of the road.) Southampton Extension residents requested sidewalks for many years along this stretch, but there are drainage issues and more than a few residents who have fences and/or landscaping in the City right-of-way, so nothing has been decided yet. Southampton Extension residents and the civic club board are still working on it. The City has offered to install the sidewalks if the civic club wants them. I'll keep you posted on the outcome.

UPA is the officially designated liaison on the upcoming Kirby Flood Relief Project and the UPA Kirby Task Force has been working with the City and J.S. Thompson for the past 18 months to facilitate as smooth a project as possible and to represent the needs of stakeholders affected by this project. Additionally, Kathie Easterly, UPA's Executive Director, and Jamie Brewster, Upper Kirby's Executive Director are the Co-Chairs of the Kirby Coalition, which is seeking funding for amenities and lobbying the City to include enhancement/beautification funds for this project. It makes no sense to spend \$41 million dollars and inconvenience University Place neighborhoods and businesses for four long years only to have Kirby Drive rebuilt exactly as it is now. UPA and the Kirby Coalition are lobbying the City to raise their standards for construction and/or reconstruction of major thoroughfares *citywide* to include enhancements such as trees, *underground* power lines, attractive crosswalks at intersections, etc., and include funding for such in every major thoroughfare construction contract. The utility companies started moving their lines/cables in July and will continue until January when major construction will begin in Segment One (Brays Bayou to Dorrington). One lane will be open in each direction for the duration of the project during all four segments (with Segment Four ending at US59), and businesses and homes will be accessible at all times. For more information on this project, visit the Kirby Coalition website: [kirbycoalition.org](http://kirbycoalition.org).

For now, we're not hearing anything about the proposed Shakespeare high-rise, the trolley is still looking hopeful, and decal parking has made a world of difference. You'll soon receive an invitation to a fabulous University Place Association fundraiser. In the meantime, we're working hard to keep University Place Super neighborhood the super neighborhood it is.