

## Letter from the President



Howdy Hyde Park,

Brrr, its cold outside! I hope you are as excited for the holiday season as I am. Now that I have moved back into my renovated house on Peden, I have decided to go all out on the Christmas decorations. I am also hosting Christmas dinner at my place. Feel free to send suggested menu items!

Unfortunately, though, it appears a new variant has raised alarms. Please keep vigilant and be sure to get that booster shot (and the initial shots) as soon as you are eligible. I have already done so and encouraged all of my family to follow suit.

### GENERAL MEETINGS

We held our second in-person General Meeting on November 2nd. We had a fantastic speaker - **Rod Hall**, Librarian at the Houston Public Library at the Freed-Montrose and Looscan Neighborhood Libraries. Rod spoke about the opportunities available at Houston Public Library locations and, more specifically for us, the new Montrose branch at the Montrose Collective (800 block of Westheimer). He was a very engaging speaker. Please support our local library and pay him a visit!

We will not be meeting in December or January. If you have ideas for our February meeting speaker, please send them my way.

### BOARD ELECTIONS

Board elections were held on November 2nd. Yours truly was reelected as President. **Barry Baumgarten** and **Cliff Jones** were reelected as Deed Restrictions Committee Member and Director At-Large, respectively. No one volunteered to run for the Secretary position.

There are many vacant roles on the Board that urgently need filling, including Vice President, Secretary, Membership Chair and Volunteer Coordinator. These roles require different levels of time commitment. For instance, the Vice President would assist with general meeting agenda items and identifying speakers and the Secretary would attend general meetings and Board meetings (two days each month), take minutes of the meetings and produce a summary of the general meeting for the newsletter. The Membership Chair would keep track of membership, updating the spreadsheet monthly and doing outreach for new members. The Volunteer Coordinator responds to e-mail inquiries from people interested in volunteering and helps organize volunteers for the events during the year (e.g., NNO, holiday tree trimming, volunteer appreciation celebration). If you are interested in any of these roles, please contact [president@hydeparkhouston.org](mailto:president@hydeparkhouston.org).

Please let us know if you are interested in volunteering with the Board!

### December

#### ➤ HPCA Holiday Party

December 6th @ 7pm

Riva's @ 1117 Missouri

RSVP and purchase tickets at  
<http://hydeparkhouston.org>

#### ➤ Holiday Tree Trimming

Lamar Park

December 4th - Look for details  
on Facebook

#### ➤ Caroling in Lamar Park

TBD - Look for details on  
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## BOARD/COMMITTEE CONTACTS

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Volunteer Coordinator – VACANT  
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## President's Letter Continued....

### WHAT'S GOING ON

Our first-in-a-long-time HPCA Happy Hour took place at Hay Merchant on November 18th. It was a good time. I hope you can join us in future neighborhood happy hours.

Our Holiday Party will take place December 6th at Riva's. Dinner will start around 7:00 pm but arrive a bit early to have a cocktail or drink with your neighbors. The cost will be \$20 per person if you purchase your ticket before the event. Otherwise, it will be \$25 at the door. The cost covers an all you can eat buffet of delicious Italian food. Also consider renewing your membership at the dinner.

We will trim the Hyde Park Christmas tree on December 4th. Check Facebook for updates. The Christmas tree trimming is a great activity for kids of all ages.

### VOLUNTEERS

We remain in need of volunteers for Hyde Park Civic Association. If you have any time to give, giving back to our neighborhood by getting involved on the Board or in one of the other volunteer positions is a truly worthwhile endeavor! Reach out to any of us if you are interested.

Stay safe everyone.

See ya,

Chris Delphin, President

## Getting Prepared for Another Winter Storm?

*Submitted by Heather Almquist*

As the meteorologist from Space City Weather declared - today is the first day of winter (meteorologically). While the immediate forecast appears to be pleasant - there are still concerns that Texas' power grid will be challenged early in 2022. I'm not sure about other Hyde Park residents, but that was a very chilly February over here on West Drew. I never would have thought I would be melting snow by the fire in Houston, Texas to flush my toilet!

My household is taking our time in preparing for another cold weather event. This year, I might even buy a winter coat! According to the Red Cross - here are some things to think about:

1. Keep your vehicle's gas tank full so you can leave right away in an emergency and to keep the fuel line from freezing.
2. Keep a supply of non-clumping kitty litter to make walkways and steps less slippery.
3. Keep handy a warm coat, gloves or mittens, hat, water-resistant boots, and extra blankets and warm clothing for everyone in your household. (Hand warmers are nice, too!)

### Block Captains

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Greg Jeu & Jim Hurst 281-541-6756

California / Westheimer  
VACANT

Commonwealth  
Laura Lark 713-550-6226

2516 Commonwealth  
Mark McCreary

Fairview  
Irene Dahlgren 713-299-5190

Hyde Park / Hyde Park Apts.  
Linda Carter 713-524-2952

Hyde Park Crescent  
Carlos Fernandez 832.541.9246

Hyde Park Townhomes  
Clint Harbert, 832-428-0158

Indiana / Yupon  
Alice McCarthy 713-828-7222

Jackson  
Nelson Vergel 713-539-1978

Maryland  
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Michigan  
Tom Whitworth 713-523-8035

Missouri  
Ramzi Mantoura 832-270-9166

Montrose  
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Peden  
Lori Corwin 832-582-6520

Vermont  
Peter Forbes 832-921-3464

Waugh  
Joseph Zetter 832.499.3762

Welch  
Scott and Lina Rigrod 713-528-2791  
Cliff Jones 713-471-6936

West Drew  
Mike McKann 713-409-7898

West Gray / Hazel/ Van Buren  
Carolina Sierra 713-446-8213

Willard  
Delia Isabel Cuellar 832-304-3171

Yoakum/Van Buren  
Macy Bodenhamer 713-201-5810

Block captains: Notify  
[president@hydeparkhouston.org](mailto:president@hydeparkhouston.org)  
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COMPASS

## Preparing for a Winter Storm - Continued from page 3...

Protect your home in the following ways:

1. Learn how to protect pipes from freezing.
2. Make sure your home heating sources are installed according to local codes and permit requirements and are clean and in working order.
3. Make sure your home is properly insulated. Caulk and weather-strip doors and windowsills to keep cold air out. Purchase pipe insulation materials now. Remember to shop local - we have both a plumbing store (U-Plumb-It on Montrose) and a hardware store (Southland Hardware on Westheimer) in close proximity to Hyde Park.
4. Install storm windows or cover windows with plastic from the inside to provide an extra layer of insulation to keep cold air out. Black out curtains are also a good option to help retain heat.
5. Consider buying emergency heating equipment, or installing a portable generator. Follow all of the manufacturer's instructions for safe installation and use.
6. If you have a fireplace, consider keeping a supply of firewood or coal. Be sure the fireplace is properly vented and in good working order and that you dispose of ashes safely.
7. Stock up on water and easy to prepare food. I usually have a good stash for hurricane season, but lack of water was my number one concern in February.

Most important of all - connect with your neighbors! Do they need help in preparing? Do you have something that would help them out? **Be kind to each other.** We are all in this together.

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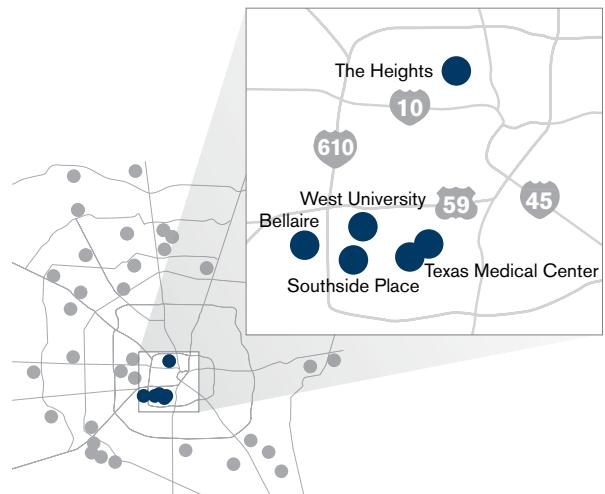
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# Recap of Hyde Park Civic Association Meeting

## November 2, 2021

Submitted by *Ellen Pollard*

**Chris Delphin** (President) opened the meeting at 7:05. 17 people were in attendance. Chris introduced our speaker **Rod Hall** who is a former lawyer and currently a librarian with the City of Houston. He predominately works at the Freed-Montrose and Looscan Neighborhood Libraries. He draws upon his diverse work experience to serve the needs of the most culturally diverse city in the country. However, his most important job is taking care of two teenagers and two lab-mix dogs. Currently St Thomas University holds the lease on the Freed-Montrose Library. The library is making plans to move to a new location on Grant and California but no date has been set yet for the move. Libraries in general have changed over the last many years. Sadly, they are moving away from books. Currently a library consists of 85% electronics and 15% books. Mr. Hall encouraged us to visit the Houston Public Library website and fill up the comment section with what we want in a library. That is basically the only way to change what is happening in libraries. He would like us to visit the library. The library needs us and misses us! The Freed-Montrose Library reopened in June following a closure due to Covid. The hours at this library are M-W 10-6, Th-12-8, Fri and Sat-10-5 and closed on Sunday. Most of the time, Mr. Hall is there T,W,Th. At this time, the library is unable to take used books. To donate, you can make an appointment with Friends of the Library or drop off at Goodwill. The identity of the Freed-Montrose Library is LGBTQ. If you are looking for a book concerning this subject, this would be the best place to find it. The Heights Library identity is Mystery as they have more mystery books than other libraries.

He spoke a little about the plans for the new library. The library will have 30 paid spots for parking but also some spots for 20-minute free parking. The library will be located on the 2nd and 3rd floors of the building. It will have 2 meeting rooms-one for 30-40 people and the other for 10-12 people.

Several questions pertained to the Libby and Overdrive apps. Most said it is difficult to obtain a book in a timely manner on these apps. Mr. Hall said to call the library and see if the book is on the shelf. Sometimes the apps do not work well with the books that are actually at the library. He recommended that all get a library card (HEB sponsors the cards) and begin using it immediately. He hopes to see lots of us at the library in the future.

**General Meeting:** Finances were discussed. We are having trouble recruiting members and advertisers. At the end of October, we maintained a balance of \$9,443.90. The large expense was the landscaping and we had no Revenue.

**Membership:** it is suggested that all renew membership now. It is \$30/person and \$60/household. The Holiday party is December 6th and you are able to purchase tickets for this (\$20 in advance and \$25 at the door) and renew your membership all on our website. Please do so now.

**Lamar Park:** The Board is discussing plans and getting bids to turn the fountain into a planter. Melissa Zarikian has a list of fountain donors and we will find a way to honor their contributions to the fountain.

**Upcoming Events:** Happy Hour is returning! We will meet at Hay Merchant on November 18th at 5:00pm. Please join us for some fun and to tearfully begin our good-byes to Hay Merchant! Christmas Tree- Chris will speak to Niko Niko's about getting the tree donated and we will announce the date to trim. We encourage families to come join in this festive event. Caroling in the Park-Chris will be in touch with the Monarch Players to see if they will come and perform for us again. We would like to have singing participation as well. If you know of a group or person who could lead us in this, please let us know. Next in-person meeting will be February 1st. Work is being done to find a speaker for this meeting. We will try and have Abbie Kamin for either the February meeting or the May one. Suggestions for speakers are welcome.

**Elections:** Voting then took place and the results are as follows. President- **Chris Delphin**, Deed Restrictions- **Barry Baumgarten**, Member-At-Large- **Cliff Jones**. Several spots on the Board are vacant, Vice-President, Secretary, Deed Restrictions (2 spots). All of these spots can now be appointed by the Board. If you are interested in getting more involved and helping your neighborhood, please let Chris know. We also still need Block Captains to distribute the newsletter. This is now done only 4 times a year.

The meeting ended at 8:11.

# HPD Crime Reports for October 2021

Submitted by Jim Pollard

Crime	Date	Address	Location
Aggravated Assault	10/9/2021 3:00	1500 BLOCK CALIFORNIA ST	Residence, Home (Includes Apartment)
Aggravated Assault	10/10/2021 16:00	1200 BLOCK WESTHEIMER RD	Parking Lot, Garage
Aggravated Assault	10/29/2021 7:00	1200 BLOCK WESTHEIMER RD	Highway, Road, Street, Alley
All other larceny	10/25/2021 4:00	1300 BLOCK WILLARD ST	Residence, Home (Includes Apartment)
All other offenses	10/17/2021 14:00	2500 BLOCK MONTROSE BLVD	Other, Unknown
All other offenses	10/18/2021 16:00	2700 BLOCK MONTROSE BLVD	Highway, Road, Street, Alley
All other offenses	10/27/2021 17:00	1000 BLOCK CALIFORNIA ST	Highway, Road, Street, Alley
Burglary, Breaking and Entering	10/4/2021 7:00	1300 BLOCK PEDEN	Residence, Home (Includes Apartment)
Burglary, Breaking and Entering	10/9/2021 19:00	2400 BLOCK MONTROSE BLVD	Other, Unknown
Burglary, Breaking and Entering	10/26/2021 4:00	1300 BLOCK WESTHEIMER RD	Speciality Store
Counterfeiting, forgery	10/8/2021 8:00	1300 BLOCK W GRAY ST	Commercial, Office Building
Destruction, damage, vandalism	10/8/2021 12:00	1200 BLOCK WESTHEIMER RD	Restaurant
Disorderly conduct	10/13/2021 0:00	1300 BLOCK WESTHEIMER RD	Restaurant
Driving under the influence	10/2/2021 23:00	1300 BLOCK WESTHEIMER RD	Parking Lot, Garage
Drug, narcotic violations	10/29/2021 23:00	2300 BLOCK MONTROSE BLVD	Highway, Road, Street, Alley
False pretenses, swindle	10/4/2021 16:00	1200 BLOCK BOMAR ST	Residence, Home (Includes Apartment)
Intimidation	10/13/2021 8:00	1400 BLOCK CALIFORNIA ST	Drug Store, Doctors Office, Hospital
Intimidation	10/18/2021 14:00	1200 BLOCK WESTHEIMER RD	Speciality Store
Intimidation	10/28/2021 0:00	1400 BLOCK HYDE PARK BLVD	Residence, Home (Includes Apartment)
Motor vehicle theft	10/10/2021 16:00	2500 BLOCK YOAKUM BLVD	Highway, Road, Street, Alley
Robbery	10/2/2021 1:00	2200 BLOCK MONTROSE BLVD	Parking Lot, Garage
Simple assault	10/11/2021 0:00	2700 BLOCK MONTROSE BLVD	Parking Lot, Garage
Simple assault	10/27/2021 16:00	2700 BLOCK MONTROSE BLVD	Convenience Store
Theft from motor vehicle	10/3/2021 1:00	2400 BLOCK MONTROSE BLVD	Bar, Nightclub
Theft from motor vehicle	10/10/2021 23:00	1700 BLOCK COMMONWEALTH ST	Highway, Road, Street, Alley
Theft from motor vehicle	10/16/2021 0:00	1100 BLOCK WESTHEIMER RD	Restaurant
Theft from motor vehicle	10/16/2021 23:00	1300 BLOCK WESTHEIMER RD	Parking Lot, Garage
Theft from motor vehicle	10/20/2021 0:00	1300 BLOCK W GRAY ST	Parking Lot, Garage
Theft from motor vehicle	10/27/2021 8:00	1700 BLOCK MONTROSE BLVD	Parking Lot, Garage
Theft of motor vehicle parts or accessory	10/16/2021 22:00	1400 BLOCK WELCH ST	Parking Lot, Garage
Trespass of real property	10/12/2021 22:00	2500 BLOCK WAUGH DR	Church, Synagogue, Temple
Trespass of real property	10/13/2021 0:00	1200 BLOCK WESTHEIMER RD	Bar, Nightclub
Trespass of real property	10/19/2021 14:00	2500 BLOCK WAUGH DR	Church, Synagogue, Temple



## Happy Hour at Hay Merchant!

Submitted by *Ellen Pollard*

Happy Hour was revived 11/18/2021 in Hyde Park. The usual suspects( missing a few though) gathered at Hay Merchant to enjoy some food and beverages. We wanted to go to Hay Merchant as we all are sad it will be closing in December. The next Happy Hour will be in January. The place will be announced later. Hoping you will join us and help ring in the new year!

Want to **join** and **benefit** from our commitment to serving Hyde Park neighbors?

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Have any fun pics from the neighborhood?

Send the editor recent Hyde Park happenings to share with friends and neighbors!  
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