

GEORGETOWN SQUARE CIVIC CORPORATION NEWSLETTER

Spring 2018

Current Board Members:

John Pickul - President Ashley Chappell - Vice President
Mauri Norris - Treasurer Jill Pearsall - Secretary Alexandra Grosman - Director

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Please come, meet and visit with your neighbors at the

Annual General Membership Meeting
to be held at the pool
April 22, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

Your attendance is very important and welcome. No business can be conducted without a quorum present. If your schedule will not allow you to attend, please complete and send your proxy form (attached to the meeting Agenda) with your trusted neighbor.

Please bring a chair.

GSCC WEBSITE

Documents and forms are readily available to you on the Georgetown Square Civic Corporation website. You can access the following information:

- By Laws
- Deed Restrictions
- Meeting Agenda
- Membership Information Form
- Newsletters
- Policies:
 - Payment Plan Policy
 - Records Production Policy
 - Records Retention Policy
- Pool Liability Waiver

Visit

www.GeorgetownSquareCC.com

and let us know what you think.



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

It is recommended, suggested and requested that each Owner and resident **register their email address and telephone numbers with the Board** in order to receive timely and informative details about the business and activities within our immediate community, including emergency notifications. A **Membership Information form** is available online at

<https://www.georgetownsquarecc.com/documents/>

Please drop off the completed form to 6505 Kenyon Lane. If you rent your property, please register Tenant information as well so that the Board can contact you in case of emergency. Your information will be kept confidential as requested.



ANNUAL NATIONAL NIGHT OUT (NNO)

Tuesday, October 2, 2018

NNO is an effective, inexpensive and enjoyable program to promote neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships in hopes for a safer nation. Along with community camaraderie, you can learn from the Bellaire Police Department about crime and drug prevention awareness, neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships, as well as send a message to criminals letting them know that our neighborhood is organized and fighting back. See attached safety tips.

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BOARD MEETINGS

The next **Georgetown Square Board meeting** will be held **immediately following the Membership meeting on April 22, 2018 at the Georgetown pool**

Please note that Board meetings are typically held quarterly in February, May, August and November and the most recent meeting minutes are posted on the bulletin board on the pool fence.



BOARD MEMBER CONTACTS

John Pickul, President	713-665-1510
6508 Kenyon	dillpickul@sbcglobal.net
Ashley Chappell, Vice President	713-805-1964
6506 Gambier	agbisme@gmail.com
Mauri Norris, Treasurer	713-201-9995
6504 Kenyon	Maurinorris@yahoo.com
Jill Pearsall, Secretary	713-432-1266
6505 Kenyon	mont2pear@aol.com
Alexandra Grosman, Director	832-641-4103
6510 Gambier	aagrosman@gmail.com



LOCAL HELPFUL NUMBERS

Bellaire Police/Animal Control - 713-668-0487
Bellaire Fire Dept - 713-662-8202
Bellaire City Manager - 713-662-8276
Bellaire Development Svcs - 713-662-8230
Bellaire Parks, Rec & Fac - 713-662-8280
Bellaire Public Works - 713-662-8170
CenterPoint/Power Outages - 713-207-2222

POOL USE

As the weather warms up, please refresh your memory on the pool rules associated with use of the community pool:

- **NO** lifeguard on duty - swim at your own risk
- **NO** glass containers. Metal, plastic or paper only
- **NO** smoking
- **NO** pets allowed
- **NO** barbeque equipment
- **NO** large pool floats
- **NO** running - **NO** playing ball, except with inflatable beach balls - **NO** diving
- Limit four guests per resident. Guests and minors **must** be accompanied by an adult resident. Unaccompanied guests or minors are subject to arrest and prosecution for trespassing.
- Pool equipment shall **only** be operated by an authorized person or vendor. The rear gate is for maintenance use **only**.
- Area safety and cleanliness are **every** resident's responsibility - please remove **your** belongings and **your** trash.
- Babies and young children **MUST** use swim diapers.
- The **pool area entry gate** should be closed and secured and all **lights and fans** turned off when you leave.

POOL HOURS

Sunday - Thursday, 6:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Friday - Saturday, 6:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.

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NEWSLETTER

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HURRICANE PREPARATIONS

With the next hurricane season starting June 1st, below are some reminders for preparedness and response:

1. Before a Hurricane

- a. Build an emergency kit
- b. Make a family communications plan
- c. Learn community hurricane evacuation routes and how to find higher ground.
- d. Cover all of your home's windows (tape does not prevent windows from breaking).
- e. Be sure trees and shrubs around your home are well trimmed so they are more wind resistant.
- f. Clear loose and clogged rain gutters and downspouts.
- g. Bring in all outdoor furniture, decorations, garbage cans and anything else that is not tied down.
- h. Consider flood insurance protection. To learn more, visit www.floodsmart.gov or call 1-800-427-4661.

2. During a Hurricane

- a. Listen to the radio or television for information.
- b. Turn off utilities, if instructed to do so.
- c. Turn the refrigerator thermostat to its coldest setting and keep its doors closed.
- d. Avoid using the phone, except for emergencies.
- e. Fill the bathtub and other large containers with water.
- f. Evacuate if directed by local authorities and follow their instructions.
- g. Stay indoors during the hurricane and away from windows and glass doors.
- h. Close all interior doors.
- i. Keep curtains and blinds closed.
- j. Take refuge in a small interior room, closet or hallway on the lowest level.

- k. Lie on the floor under a table or another sturdy object.

3. After a Hurricane

- a. Listen to radio or local television for the latest updates.
- b. Stay alert for extended rainfall and subsequent flooding.
- c. If you evacuated, return home only when officials say it is safe.
- d. Drive only if necessary and avoid flooded roads and washed-out bridges.
- e. Stay off the streets. If you must go out, watch for fallen objects; downed electrical wires; and weakened walls, bridges, roads, and sidewalks.
- f. Walk carefully around the outside of your home and check for loose power lines, gas leaks and structural damage.
- g. Report loose or dangling power lines to the power company immediately.
- h. Inspect your home for damage. Take pictures of damage, both of the building and its contents, for insurance purposes.
- i. Use battery-powered flashlights in the dark. Do NOT use candles.
- j. Watch your pets closely and keep them under your direct control.
- k. Watch out for wild animals, especially poisonous snakes. Use a stick to poke through debris.
- l. Avoid drinking or preparing food with tap water until you are sure it's not contaminated.
- m. Check refrigerated food for spoilage. If in doubt, throw it out.
- n. Wear protective clothing and be cautious when cleaning up to avoid injury.
- o. Use the telephone only for emergency calls.
- p. **NEVER** use a generator inside homes, garages, crawlspaces, sheds, or similar areas.



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT SAFETY TIPS

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT began in 1984 to promote involvement in crime prevention activities, police-community partnerships, and neighborhood camaraderie, as well as to send a message to criminals that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Crime Stoppers of Houston is proud to support all of our communities on **NATIONAL NIGHT OUT**.

How to Report a Tip



Call 713.222.TIPS (8477)



Text TIP610 plus your tip to CRIMES (274637)



Use our **Mobile App**

Download app name: Crime Stoppers Houston



Go to **crime-stoppers.org**

Tipsters will remain anonymous and could be eligible for a cash reward of up to \$5,000.

Did you know?

- Every 15 seconds a burglary occurs, with the average dollar loss being \$2,251.
- Homes without security systems are up to 300% more likely to be broken into.
- Most break-in occur during the day when you are at work.
- 95% of burglars surveyed would run if they met a large, unwelcoming dog face-to-face.
- Your local law enforcement department provides home security checks.
- Getting to know your neighbors is a great defense to keep your neighborhood safe.
- A neighborhood with mowed lawns, flowers, and freshly painted homes looks like it's cared for, and this alone can help deter crime.



Tips for Parents:

- Know the location of your children. Create a system of communication for knowing where they are or when they reach their destination.
- Set limits on where they can and cannot go in the neighborhood. Consider potential dangers such as busy roads, abandoned houses, railroad tracks, registered sex offenders, etc.
- Familiarize your child with the neighborhood. Show them safe places they can go if they need help such as a neighbor's home, the fire station, police station, trusted stores or business offices.
- Be sure your child has memorized your home address and phone number along with the phone number of another trusted adult.
- Remind your child to "check first" before they leave the house.



KEEP YOUR HOME SAFE: Prevention is key!

Most neighborhood crimes that occur are crimes of opportunity. Unlocked cars and easy access to your home are a burglar's dream. We cannot take for granted how safe we feel in our homes and community. Anything from running a quick errand and leaving your purse or briefcase in the car, forgetting to turn on your alarm or forgetting to lock your windows could put you at risk.

1. Entrust a neighbor or a friend who lives close by with an extra key to your home in case of emergencies. It is not recommended to hide a key around your home.
2. Keep shrubbery trimmed away from windows. It will add to your curb appeal and won't allow someone to hide. Maintain outdoor lighting and landscaping.
3. Install security cameras and make a habit of using your alarm and locking windows and doors, including interior doors to an attached garage.
4. Use timers on lamps in your home; it will appear as someone is home and will provide lighting if you arrive home after dark.
5. Postpone your social media travel updates until you return. Updating in real-time alerts others of an empty house.
6. Have packages delivered to an alternate address such as a work address if you are not going to be home during a delivery.
7. Alert your local law enforcement department if you plan to be away from your home for an extended period of time.

Do Something Tips

- ✓ Being aware of your neighbors' habits can assist in noticing if something does not seem right.
- ✓ Work together with your neighbors by looking out for suspicious and/or unusual behavior in the neighborhood.
- ✓ Create an email chain for your street/neighborhood to help keep the neighborhood abreast of safety tips and crime trends.
- ✓ Get outside and be visible by hosting block parties, going for walks, playing in the front yard to show potential criminals that you live in a tight knit community where neighbors look out for one another.
- ✓ If something seems questionable or to report suspicious activity, call the non-emergency line of your local police.
- ✓ Don't enter your home if doors or windows are open that you don't recall leaving open. Call the police from a safe distance.
- ✓ Call your neighbor if you see a service vehicle at their house while they are gone.