



## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

**PLEASE NOTE CHANGES  
IN MEETING DATES!**

**Robindell Civic Club Meeting  
Thursday, January 23rd  
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.**

**Bayland Community Center  
6400 Bissonnet Street**

**Robindell Civic Club Meeting  
Wednesday, March 25th  
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.**

**Bayland Community Center  
6400 Bissonnet Street**

**Robindell Civic Club Meeting  
Wednesday, May 13th  
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.**

**Bayland Community Center  
6400 Bissonnet Street**

**Robindell Civic Club Meetings are open to all!**

## **Garbage Bins MUST Be Out Of Sight**

**Please make sure  
your garbage bins are out of sight  
behind fences,  
in your garage, or by other means  
when not out for collection.**

**Robindell Deed Restrictions  
dictate that garbage bins and yard waste  
cannot be visible from the street.**

## **Letter from the President**

I'm honored to lead Robindell into the future of 2020. Surprise it is here & now. Please know that I am already kicking the shins of government to get what we pay for in property tax. I hope you will do the same to the State, County, City, and even the HOA on your own behalf.

So how do we get the most out of our \$40 HOA Dues? K.I.S.S. = Keep It Simple SIMPLE!

First read your deed restrictions once in a while. Then survey the scene of the neighborhood. Next talk to a neighbor about an issue. If you can't find one, talk to your section leader. Then report your findings to 832-736-2048 (for quicker response please text) or secretary@robindell.org. Follow up if it is not addressed in a reasonable time. But please note most of your concerns will likely need to be enforced by local authorities within the City of Houston. That is why I often start my complaints and documentation with 311, before involving the HOA. Lastly get involved with the HOA and vote for people that get the simple things in life accomplished.

The little things DO matter.

T.J. Van Auken

## **Membership Dues**

Keep your eyes open for your annual dues letter, arriving in your mailbox later this month. Although the deadline for submitting mandatory 2020 Robindell Civic Club property owners' dues is March 31st, the sooner, the better. Dues are \$40 if paid by that date. After March 31st there is an added late fee of \$10. Payments may be made via the website at [www.robindell.org](http://www.robindell.org) under the "Make a Payment" tab, or you can mail a check to:

Robindell Civic Club  
9639 Hillcroft Street, PMB 118  
Houston, Texas 77096

Please be sure to include the property address in the memo section of your payment check.

Membership dues pay for printing of this newsletter, renting of meeting space, neighborhood sponsored events, common area landscaping, and legal fees, among other things.

## About Robindell Civic Club

Robindell neighborhood was founded in 1954. Since its founding, the Robindell Civic Club has acted to serve Robindell residents through preserving the neighborhood's quality, character, and history. This is all accomplished through the volunteer hours of many individuals who serve on the board and on various committees. It is your neighborhood. Consider investing a bit of your time and talent to help keep Robindell an amazing place to live!

Do you have any requests of the leadership? Do you have a recommendation for making Robindell even better? Do you have questions about Robindell?

Attend our next Civic Club meeting at Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet Street, January 23rd, 6:30-8:00 p.m. All owners, tenants, and guests are welcome. We value your input!

If unable to attend our meeting, please email us at [robindellcc@gmail.com](mailto:robindellcc@gmail.com) or contact any of our board members. Find contact information on page 6.

## Robindell Roads

We all know the road resurfacing is going on a bit longer than planned, but it is well on its way to completion. If you have any comments or questions regarding the work, please call the Houston Public Works' Transportation and Drainage Operations Department at 713-843-5483 or email [SDD@houstontx.gov](mailto:SDD@houstontx.gov). A representative from the Overlay Section will contact you.



## Newsletter Submissions and Advertising

**The next deadline for submissions is March 6th.**

Please email submissions to [newsletter@robindell.org](mailto:newsletter@robindell.org). Advertising space is available in Robindell News bi-monthly newsletter as follows:

Size	Single Issues	Six Issues
1/8 page	\$25	\$125
1/4 page	\$45	\$225
1/2 page	\$80	\$400
full page	\$150	\$750

- Ads are payable by check or via PayPal at [robindell.org](http://robindell.org).
- Mail checks payable to Robindell Civic Club to:  
Robindell Civic Club - Newsletter  
9639 Hillcroft, PMB 118, Houston, Texas 77096
- Original/Camera Ready Artwork Preferred.
- Send artwork and inquiries to: [newsletter@robindell.org](mailto:newsletter@robindell.org).

## The 2020 Census

**Why is the once a decade census important?** It counts our population and households, providing the basis for reapportioning congressional representation, redistricting, and distributing more than \$675 billion in federal funds annually to support states, counties, and communities' vital programs impacting housing, education, transportation, employment, health care, and public policy. Federal funds, grants, and support to local governments and communities are based on population totals and breakdowns by sex, age, race, and other factors. We are benefitted most when the census counts EVERYONE.

Counting an increasingly diverse and growing population is a massive undertaking. It requires years of planning and the support of thousands of people. Ultimately, the success of the census depends on everyone's participation. The Census Bureau depends on cross-sector collaborations with organizations and individuals to get people to participate.

Your information remains confidential. Federal law protects your census responses. Your answers can only be used to produce statistics. By law your information cannot be shared with anyone, including immigration enforcement agencies, law enforcement agencies, or allow it to be used to determine your eligibility for government benefits.

**Workers are needed.** The U.S. Census Bureau is recruiting to fill hundreds of thousands of temporary positions across the country to assist with the 2020 Census count. Jobs offer competitive wages that are paid weekly with flexible work hours.

United States Census Bureau

**Bob Patterson**  
 5828 Bissonnet • Houston, Texas 77081  
 713-666-1744 • 713-666-8108 (Fax)  
 bobb@yardgeek.com

**Lindhurst Construction**



Home Handy Man  
 Painting, Sheetrock, and more



Humane Bat Removal

Phil Lindhurst - Certified Bat Excluder

(713) 981-9576      PhilsBats@att.net

**When in doubt, ask Phil!**

## Don't Commit Crepe Murder!

Horticulturists can take it no more. They are organizing and protesting. They are advocating for those who can not speak for themselves... *Lagerstroemia indica* or crepe myrtles, "the Lilac of the South".

Crepe myrtles are among the toughest, most adaptable, and showiest plants that we can grow in our Texas landscapes. They have very few pests, they bloom all summer long, and they happen to have a natural branching structure that any floral designer would crave. For some reason the majority of gardeners (and virtually ALL landscape crews) in Texas have made it a horrid ritual of butchering them. We don't hack on dogwoods, redbuds, or Japanese maples, so why do we pick out the prettiest one of all to maim. Stop committing crepe murder! I know many nationally recognized horticulturist and arborist and NONE of them endorse the practice of topping crepe myrtles or any ornamental trees for that matter.

But, "they got too big!". Most folks don't realize that there are many, many cultivars of crepe myrtles that have an intimate height range anywhere from three to thirty feet. So, if you are planning on planting a crepe myrtle in your landscape, consider how its ultimate size will fair in its new location. For heavens sake, don't plant a thirty foot crepe myrtle in a space designed for a ten foot one.

These are some reasons not follow this terrible practice:  
 First of all it leaves horrible scars and wounds that last forever. It also makes a profusion of smaller branches resulting in a lack of proportion. It has a potential (only a potential) for creating larger blooms, but fewer of them, which tend to be heavier, causing the branches to flop over and droop. And finally, it's just down right ugly. Save yourself some effort, or some money if you are paying a lawn maintenance crew, and skip the topping of your crepe myrtles this year, and every year.

Stop committing crepe murder!

Agelia Pérez Márquez

## Are You On Social Media?

Check out Robindell Neighborhood Houston on Facebook: The latest news on store and restaurant openings and closures. Lost and found dogs, cats, birds, and some surprisingly exotic animals which find their way into the neighborhood. Updates on City of Houston infrastructure projects effecting Robindell and surrounding areas.

Recipes are exchanged, good deeds exalted, complaints lodged. Questions which are answered in the newsletter are asked again!

If you live in Robindell, join us on Facebook to help you stay up-to-date on the neighborhood goings-on.

**#3 BHHS Anderson Props  
 Houston Area 2018**

*Please call us for your real estate needs.*

**The Shabot Team  
 Jack & Jean**



In the Berkshire  
 Hathaway  
 Home Services  
 Bellaire Office

**Your Neighbors  
 in Bellaire**

**BHHS Anderson  
 Properties**

5420 Bissonnet  
 Bellaire, TX 77401  
*In the Bellaire Triangle*

*Everything They Touch  
 Turns To* **SOLD**

January 2020



**Marie & Gerard  
Maloney**



When Marie Maloney and her husband Gerard decided to move back to Houston from

Atlanta, Georgia in 2016, they enlisted the help of a friend to find a home in Robindell. Marie knew the neighborhood well, as she had previously lived across the bayou. Trusting their friend, they purchased the home at 6136 Ariel sight unseen and have never regretted their decision. Against the contractor's suggestions, the brick was painted a dark grey and Marie actually built and installed the great flower boxes. We love the look and congratulate the Maloneys for winning Yard of the Month! The sign will be put in their yard this week. They will also receive a gift certificate for a bag of fertilizer from Southwest Fertilizer. If you have questions or suggestions, please contact Gena Sylvester, at [gsylve1798@gmail.com](mailto:gsylve1798@gmail.com), or Lisa Hollins at [lyhollins@hotmail.com](mailto:lyhollins@hotmail.com).

**Braeswood Food Truck Park**

Now, along with visiting the Braeswood Farmer's Market on Saturday or Sunday mornings, you can check



out the new daily Braeswood Food Truck Park at Braes Oaks Shopping Center, 5401 South Braeswood.

- Mon. - Wed., 10:30 am - 9:00 pm
- Thurs. - Sun., 9:00 am - 9:00 pm

The food truck park features a growing rotation of food trucks. Reviews thus far have been very favorable by several neighbors!



**Best Of Times Comics**

**Eric A. Anderson Voûte**

VOÛTE  
Plus être que paraître

832.643.1214 Houston, Texas  
[BestOfTimesComics@gmail.com](mailto:BestOfTimesComics@gmail.com)

**A Great Neighborhood Is Not An Accident - So Thank You!**

A very special thank you to all of our outgoing 2019 Board Members, President Marty Langton, Treasurer Josh Graveley, and Secretary Martha Aschenbrenner

Thank you to our outgoing volunteer webmaster Laura Preidis who has moved out of the neighborhood. If you have the skills and are willing to help with our website, please contact our new president T.J. Van Auken at 832-788-8457 or at [president@robindell.org](mailto:president@robindell.org).

A sincere thank you to our many newsletter delivery volunteers, (mostly Section Directors as part of their duties), but especially Dave and Mary Decker, Bette Jezuit, and Margaret Swarts.

And finally, thank you to John Gajewski at Copy Doctor at 3814 Bissonnet, [jgajewski@copydr.com](mailto:jgajewski@copydr.com), 713-522-4711 for always providing the best quality, price, and completion time of our newsletter printing.

Robindell would not be what it is without all of you.



## Citizen Patrol Program

Howdy Neighbors,

If you haven't made any resolutions for the new year yet, here is your chance.

Please join and volunteer for our Citizen Patrol Program. I am sure we all must appreciate that we are living in a relatively safe and sound neighborhood. However, with your help and a little initiative we could make it an even better place to live and raise our families.

The Citizen Patrol Program was designed by the Houston Police Department to educate common citizens like us on how to monitor any suspicious activity OR person and then report it back to them. As they say, "see something, say something". Basically, you are volunteering to be eyes and ears for HPD in our neighborhood. By being trained by HPD officers, you also learn how not to be a victim of any potential crime.

The time you spend doing daily activities within the neighborhood such as walking, jogging, dropping off or picking up your children from school, driving to or from work, running errands, or any other activities could count towards your patrolling by just keeping your eyes and ears open.

If you are interested in volunteering and making positive impact in our neighborhood, then please get in touch with me.

Thank you,

Ravi Patil, Citizens Patrol Program Chair  
ravitpatil19@gmail.com, 832-275-7228

## Burglary Prevention

Did you know that 90% of burglaries occur through the back door and occur during daylight hours when occupants are presumed to be at work? What tends to fail in such a crime is the door frame, not the lock. Reinforcing the frame is key, here!

When burglaries do occur, investigators are more able to pursue cases if camera evidence is available. Most cases which are tossed are thrown out due to lack of evidence.

The best deterrents are cameras, alarm systems, dogs, and large iron gates. All of these are excellent, of course, but dogs will also offer love, loyalty, humor, and warmth. And they wag their tails!

Be vigilant. Look out after one another. If you see something, say something. Call the police.

## CITY TRASH AND RECYCLING

Christmas Trees can be put out at the curb on tree waste day or delivered to the Westpark Recycling Center, 5900 Westpark, Mon.-Sat., 8 am-5pm, through January 26th. No painted trees, tinsel, flocking, tree lights, or stands are allowed.

Trash and Yard Waste Collection.....every Tuesday

Jan. 7, 14, 22\*, 28  
Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25  
March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31



Yard Waste must be in city approved compostable bags.

Recycling Collection.....every other Tuesday

Jan.. 7, 22\*  
Feb. 4, 18  
March 3, 17, 31



### \*Holiday Schedule

### Acceptable Recycling Items:

- Metal and cans (rinsed and drained)
- Plastic containers (#1-5 and #7, rinsed and drained)
- Cardboard boxes and cartons (items such as milk, juice, soup, crackers, cream, beans, water, broth, wine, etc. that are **free of food oil residue, so no pizza boxes**)
- Paper (newspaper, catalogs, magazines, phone books)
- Glass (now accepting bottles and jars made of clear, green, and brown glass, rinsed and drained)

Bins and yard waste bags may be placed at the curb after 6:00 p.m. the evening before collection and empty bins removed from the curb by 10:00 p.m. on collection day.

Heavy Trash.....second Tuesday of each month

Jan. 14 (Tree Waste only)  
Feb. 11 (Junk Waste)  
March 10 (Tree Waste only)

Heavy Trash items may be placed on the curb after 6:00 p.m. the Friday before pick up. Tree debris is collected every month. Junk waste is collected during *even* months only.

### Having Issues With Pick-Up?

1. Please call 311 to report and get a report number! Your report will be passed on to Solid Waste Management.
2. Call or email your new City Council members:  
District C, Abbie Kamin  
832-393-3004, districtc@houstontx.gov  
District J, Edward Pollard  
832-393-3015, districtj@houstontx.gov

**Robindell Civic Club**  
**9639 Hillcroft, PMB 118**  
**Houston, Texas 77096**



Return Service Requested

### **Robindell Civic Club 2020 Leadership**

President: T.J. Van Auken	president@robindell.org	832-788-8457
Vice President: Charlie Holcomb	vicepresident@robindell.org	
Treasurer: Robert Hastings	treasurer@robindell.org	
Secretary: Eric Voûte	secretary@robindell.org	832-643-1214
Section 1 Director: Ravi Patil	ravipatil19@gmail.com	832-275-7228
Section 2 Director: Gayle Nesom	gnesom10@gmail.com	713-591-6527
Section 3 Director: <b>VACANT - please contact the board secretary if you would like to serve!</b>		
Section 4 Director: Trisha Meekins	trishameekins@sbcglobal.net	713-303-8666
Section 5 Director: Gena Sylvester	gsylve1798@gmail.com	
Architectural Control Committee:	Robert Hastings	acc@robindell.org
Citizens Patrol Program: Ravi Patil	ravipatil19@gmail.com	832-275-7228
Newsletter Editors:		
Agelia Pérez Márquez	newsletter@robindell.org	713-249-5404
Eric Voûte	newsletter@robindell.org	832-643-1214
Webmaster:	webmaster@robindell.org	
Yard Of The Month:		
Gena Sylvester	gsylve1798@gmail.com	
Lisa Hollins	lyhollins@hotmail.com	
Mailing Address:	Robindell Civic Club, 9639 Hillcroft, PMB 118, Houston, TX 77096	
Phone Number:	832-736-2048 (for quicker response please text)	
General Email:	robindellcc@gmail.com	
Website:	www.robindell.org	
Find us on	Facebook under "Robindell Neighborhood Houston"	
and on	Twitter under "Robindell Civic Club"	