



NORTHFIELD I & II NEWSLETTER



late October/early November 2015



A diverse community of residents with high standards and expectations

President's Corner

By Vincent L. Sanders

Greeting Neighbors!!!

Election Day – November 3 is right around the corner. In this election Houston will undergo a dramatic change in our city's leadership by electing a new mayor, city controller and a number of city council members. Plus there will be seven proposed state constitutional amendments, four Harris county propositions and two city of Houston propositions on the ballot. My message is short and simple this month: **VOTE!!** Four letters, a short word but sooooo powerful the meaning. And as I have said before, many have fought and died for this privilege. Voting is the simplest way to shape our region and influence government. This election will set the direction of this state, county and city for many years to come. Early voting (as I'm writing this report) is going on **NOW....** However, I hope to see **MANY** of you at A.A. Milne on **11/3** so that **WE** can help influence the future of our community. I want to thank Borris Miles and his staff for providing a quick guide summary sheets of all of the state, county and city ballot propositions (see pages 5-6 of this newsletter). In speaking of education, HISD board trustee Wanda Adams stopped by our National Night Out (NNO) and left us with information concerning HISD and District IX. I have placed in our newsletter a summary sheet from the 84th Texas Legislative session of bills that will affect public education in Houston.

Now speaking of NNO, I **want to THANK YOU for your participation in our (NNO).** On **Tuesday, October 6th** we celebrated our 11th annual NNO. And boy did we have a **BLAST!!!** I want to give a "Shout Out" to the NNO committee members (listed on page 2) who reached out to several entities that make up and support our neighborhood. Here is a checklist of all who stopped by our Night Out:

- ✓ Our local, State elected officials
- ✓ **Representatives from City Council members Larry Green, Representatives from State Rep. Borris Miles, and representatives from mayoral candidate Sylvester Turner**
- ✓ our school administrators, **HISD trustee Wanda Adams & Mr. Jerome Ryans, principal of A.A. Milne E.S.**
- ✓ neighborhood Businesses, **We have several local Businesses in attendance**
- ✓ neighborhood police officers, **Gessner Command Station**
- ✓ **YOU**, the residents that make up Northfield I & II

Your participation in NNO sent a message that we care about our subdivision. It also sends a message to criminals that **WE as Northfield I & II** are organized and will block any type of criminal activities in and around our neighborhood. Simply put, **Thank you for showing the other parts of Houston why Northfield I & II is such a great place to live.** I hope you had a great time and plan on joining us again in NNO-2016.

And finally, please review the last page of this newsletter, Northfield I & II (on a trial basis) will subscribe to PCMI townsquare. Your board of directors want an effective communication tool so that neighbors will have up-to-date information that can be easily shared with HOA board, Management Company and other neighbors. Look for additional information concerning townsquare in upcoming newsletters and board meetings.

REMEMBER THAT ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015

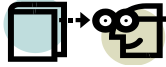


State and County propositions

City of Houston elected officials & City propositions



IMPORTANT READ



The Board of Directors of
Northfield I & II
want to

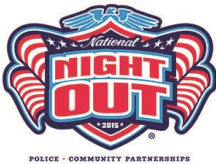


THANK YOU!!

for your participation in
National Night Out



We hope that you got the chance to
meet and greet
your Neighbors....



I would like to thank the Northfield I & II community for coming out on October 6th and supporting this year's National Night Out (NNO). This was the 11th year that Northfield I and II has participated in this annual event. And again NNO was a smashing success in Northfield I & II!!!

A world of thanks to all those who have helped over the years by giving cases of water, brought desserts and snacks and helped prepare hot dogs. I want to send a special "Shout Out" to **Barrie Boisseau who chaired the event and Victoria Cummings who was assistant chair** for this year's event. Living in such a large city as Houston, it is good to know your neighbors. It is also up to us to patronize and support our local businesses. We had several businesses that came out and shared information with us about their products and services.

Always remember that the neighborhood is the basic hub of the community where we can fellowship, receive community information about our local businesses. When you see NNO committee members in the neighborhood tell them **"Thanks and Great Job!!!!"**

We hope you enjoyed the evening!!

Vincent Sanders, President Northfield I&II

EVENT COMMITTEE

Barrie T. Boisseau
Charles Hightower
Crystal Edwards
Jan Rose
Jeffrey Weaver
Charlotte Gifford-Weaver
Ollie Ussery
Rachel Ejekam
Sandra Smith
Sharon Phillips
Veronica Angel
Victoria Cummings
Vincent Sanders
Jerry Selzer

CONTRIBUTORS

A.A.Milne Elementary School
Angel Gomez
Beldens
Brownstone Dental
Fiesta, 11240 Fondren (@ W. Bellfort)
Grounds Keeper
Harris County Clerk Office
Mary Kay Cosmetics, Julia LaDa Barber
METRO (Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County)
PCMI
State Farm Insurance Co.
Teotihuacan Restaurant (Fondren @ W. Bellfort)
Wal-Mart
Brandon Herndon (State Farm)

FROM THE BOARDROOM



At the October 12, board meeting, Northfield I & II Board of Directors (BOD) voted unanimously to keep the 2016 Homeowner Assessments at \$450.00. This decision was due in part to the high percentage of homeowners who paid their annual assessments in a timely matter.

The Northfield I & II BOD approved to purchase new playground equipment at a cost of \$25,000.00. The price includes removing the old playground equipment and the installation of a new play system.

Northfield I & II BOD approved a 2016 security subcontract with West Bellfort POA for Constable Patrol. This contract will remain at the same rate as 2015. The current cost of constable security is \$53,000.00.

YES, PHOTO ID IS STILL IN EFFECT!!!!

The Texas Election Code, Title Chapter 63, provides that a voter is required to present one of seven forms of **PHOTO** identification at the poll before the voter is permitted to cast a regular ballot. The seven types are listed below:

- Texas driver license -unexpired or expired less than 60 days
- Election Identification Certificate (EIC)
- Texas identification card- unexpired or expired less than 60 days
- Texas concealed handgun license-unexpired or expired less than 60 days
- U.S. passport- unexpired or expired less than 60 days
- U.S. military identification with photo
- U.S. citizenship certificate with photo

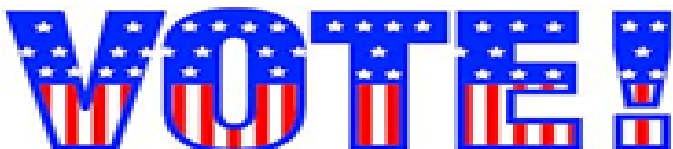


On November 1st



It's time to "Fall Back!"
Daylight Savings Time
Ends Sunday at 2am

Remember to set your clocks back one hour before you retire for the evening on Saturday.



REMINDER

Trash Pick-up: Every Thursday
Curbside Recycling:
November 12, 27 (Holiday)



Next Heavy Trash collection is
Friday November 13, 2015

TREE DEBRIS ONLY



LEAGUE OF THE



The Yard of the Month for October award goes to
10903 Villa Lea,
Delores Cooper

This yard is neatly trimmed and the beds are filled with blooming Plumbago interspersed with red roses. It is a lovely yard and the arrangements of flowers make for a beautiful landscape.

Northfield I & II Residents are always welcome to board meetings

The next Northfield I & II meetings will take place on **Monday November 9, 2015 at 7:00p.m.** The meeting will be held at the NF I&II Clubhouse which is located at 10743 Valley Hills

Wednesday, November 11 is Veteran's Day
Northfield I & II honors the men and women who fought this nation's wars and who gave up their lives for us.....





VOTE (this needs repeating)!!

Election Day, November 3, 2015 is drawing near and in Texas an individual must vote at the voting location for the precinct in which he or she is registered to vote and has been designated to vote. **In Precinct 525, A.A. Milne Elementary School** is the current polling location for those who plan to vote on Election Day.

Special modifications are made for the disabled or individuals who are physically unable to enter the polling location. Just notify the presiding precinct election official that someone needs to vote outside and a voting machine will be brought to the curb.

Up-to-date information is available by calling the Harris County Clerk's office at (713)-274-9550 or accessing www.harrisvotes.com and clicking on "Election Calendar".

Please Remember, BRING YOUR PHOTO ID to the polls....



FYI.....

As voting rates increase, local governments are more likely to address issues of high importance to citizens, and political polarization decreases.

The more people who vote, the healthier the democracy.

Source: Center for Houston's Future/Community Indicators



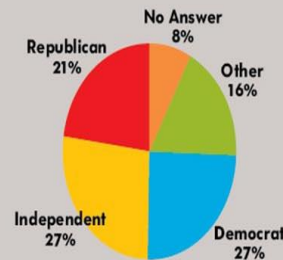
GO ROCKETS!!!!!!!!!!

DID YOU KNOW????

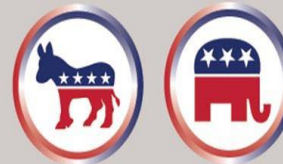


✓ Among major U.S. metropolitan areas, **only Dallas has lower levels of voter turnout**

HOUSTON REGION ADULTS BY POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIATION



✓ 1 in 4 do not identify as a Republican, Democrat, or Independent



✓ **Straight ticket voting** in Harris County has increased from 48% in 1994 to 68% in 2014

✓ **Early voting reached almost 60% in 2012**, but has not been definitively shown to increase voter turnout.



✓ A **third of Houston area residents** say they **never discuss politics** with family or friends

81%

✓ In the past five years 81% of non-judicial Harris County elections were either uncontested or uncompetitive (decided by more than 10% margin); 15 years ago the figure was 90%



✓ **The last time that more than 15% of eligible voters participated in the City of Houston Mayoral election was 2005**

CENTER FOR HOUSTON'S FUTURE
The Region's Think Tank

HoustonIndicators.org

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Source: Center for Houston's Future/ HoustonIndicators.org

2015 Ballot Propositions

State of Texas Constitutional Amendment Election

Proposition 1:

Right now, a homeowner does not pay property taxes on the first \$15,000 of a home's value. Are you in favor of increasing this exemption to the first \$25,000 of a home's value?

Proposition 2:

Currently, fully disabled veterans do not pay property taxes on his or her home, but if the veteran passes away, there are questions whether the tax exemption can transfer to the veteran's surviving spouse. Do you support clarifying the law to ensure that the homeowner property tax exemption transfers to the surviving spouse of a deceased, fully disabled veteran?

Proposition 3:

This amendment would allow a statewide elected official (Agriculture Commissioner, Land Commissioner, Comptroller, etc.) to live away from Austin. Do you think a statewide elected official should be able to live away from the state capital?

Proposition 4:

Should charities associated with professional sports teams be allowed to conduct raffles for charity?

Proposition 5:

Currently, counties with populations under 5,000 can construct and maintain private roads as long as the property owners pay for the services. Are you in favor of increasing this ability to counties with populations of 7,500 or less?

Proposition 6:

Should the Texas Constitution recognize the right of people to hunt and fish while following laws promoting wildlife conservation?

Proposition 7:

Should Texas commit an extra portion of already existing sales tax and vehicle tax collections to fund non-tolled roads after first funding other essential state services?

2015 Ballot Propositions (cont.)

Harris County Proposition Election

Proposition 1:

Do you support a Harris County tax increase to fund \$700 million in Harris County Road Improvement Bonds, which include \$60 million for neighborhood street replacement and repair?

Proposition 2:

Do you support a Harris County tax increase to fund \$60 million in bonds for county parks?

Proposition 3:

Do you support a Harris County tax increase to fund \$24 million in bonds for a county veterinary and public health center?

Proposition 4:

Do you support a Harris County tax increase to fund \$64 million in bonds for improved flood control?

City of Houston Proposition Election

Proposition 1:

Currently, an individual may not be discriminated against in Houston based on sex, race, color, ethnicity, national origin, age, religion, disability, pregnancy, genetic information, military status, familial status, or marital status. Are you in favor of the Houston Equal Rights Ordinance (HERO) that adds sexual orientation and gender identity to the list of factors the city or a company may not use to discriminate?

Proposition 2:

After being elected, Houston officials, such as the mayor, currently serve for two years before seeking re-election, and they are limited to only three terms (total of 6 years). Do you support increasing the time between elections to four years and limiting the official to only two terms (total of 8 years)?

84TH TEXAS LEGISLATIVE SESSION SUMMARY

The 84th Texas Legislative Session began January 13 and ended on June 1, 2015. Collectively, the House and Senate filed over 6,000 bills. Only about 1,000 bills filed actually passed. 111 of the bills that passed affect public education.

The most prevalent legislative issues included reducing student testing, improving accountability, turning around underperforming schools, and improving post-secondary readiness.

The legislature also passed truancy reform, which makes failure to attend school a civil offense instead of a criminal penalty.

Regarding funding, the legislature only added \$1.5 billion for enrollment growth to public education over the 2016-17 biennium. This upset school leaders because most were hoping at least for \$2.2 billion.

The House was willing to increase public education funding by \$2.2 billion and they set aside an additional \$800 million if the school finance bill passed (HB 1759).

The House did not pass school finance, so the budget negotiators used the Senate's number. The Senate was a much more conservative body and only wished to spend an additional \$1.5 billion. Moreover, this means school systems statewide will continue doing more with less state funding.

In Houston ISD, local taxpayers fund over 90 percent of the district's budget. The state only covers a fraction of our annual expenditures.

HISD PRIORITY: CHAPTER 41

According to Chapter 41 of the Texas Education Code, Houston ISD is a "property wealthy" district, even though over 80 percent of our students are economically disadvantaged.

The Chapter 41 law requires property wealthy districts to write a check containing local taxpayer dollars to the state. In turn, the state uses those local dollars to fund "property poor" school districts elsewhere.

The small \$1.5 billion increase from the state means HISD must write a check to the state both years of the 2016-17 biennium.

Before session, our check to the state could have exceeded \$200 million. However, our legislative efforts were able to get the payment reduced. Current estimates show HISD will have to write a total check of \$140 million to the state.

HISD PRIORITY: PRE-K

Securing additional dollars for Pre-K was another legislative accomplishment this session. With early education as Governor Abbot's top priority, the legislature provided modest funding for Pre-K and teacher training academies this session.

The legislature appropriated \$40.6 million for math and reading teacher academies to equip teachers with stronger teaching skills.

The legislature also appropriated \$118 million to fund high quality half and full day Pre-K programs.

HISD should see increased funding for our full-day Pre-Kindergarten program during the 2016-17 school year. HISD supported the governor's early education plan.

HISD PRIORITY: DUAL CREDIT

Another key accomplishment for HISD this session was dual credit. High school students in HISD needed more access to college-level coursework.

With the passage of HB 5 in 2013, school districts received increased flexibility to work with the business community, colleges and universities. However, state law only allowed us to work with one community college – HCC.

HISD passed Senate Bill 1004, a bill that allows school districts in Harris County to work with the four community colleges in the county: HCC, Lone Star, San Jacinto and Lee College.



Beyond Careers is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

4th Annual Education Symposium

Topic: Enhancing Post-Secondary Education

Beyond Careers Financial Aid U program



Location: Houston Community College
Stafford Learning Hub
10041 Cash Road
Stafford, TX 77477

Master of Ceremony:

Christopher Hensley, Radio/podcast hosts Money Matters on KPFT Houston

Presenters:

Ann Williams, Trustee, Alief Independent School District

June Giddings, M.Ed, Houston A+ Challenge, GCPASS Director

Elaine Barber - President, Greater Houston Black Chamber of Commerce

Arianda Hicks - Beyond Careers Board of Director, member

Kathy Ploch, CPA, Entrepreneurial Services Manager, Harper & Pearson Company, P.C.

Supporters:

Dr. Ceasar Maldonado, HCC Chancellor

Dr. Madeline Burillo - HCC-Southwest, Interim President

Dr. Carolyn Evans-Shabazz, HCC, Trustee District IV

Dr. Alma A. Allen, State Representative, District 131

Catherine Clark Mosbacher, President/CEO, Center for Houston's Future

Saturday, November 7, 2015

11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

To RSVP by October 15, 2015 go to: <http://4symposium.eventbrite.com>

See: <http://beyondcareers.org/current-events-2/>

Tickets are first come, first serve. All sales are final with no refunds

SENIOR

Congregate Lunch Program

Good Food, Good Health, & Good Times!

~ Would you like a FREE Hot Nutritious Meal up to 5 days/week?

~ Are you at least 60 years old?

**If you answered YES to both questions, then you are eligible for
Chancellors Family Center's
Congregate Lunch Program*.**

Program Benefits:

- A Balanced Nutritious Meal
- Access to Nutritional Education
- Service Provided at No Cost Helps Seniors Stretch their Finances
- Fun Social Activities
- Make New Friends
- Volunteer Opportunities

To apply or for more information, join us
Monday - Friday
from 10am - 2pm

Chancellors
Family Center

6535 Dumfries Drive
Houston, Texas 77096
(713)772-9955
www.chancellors.org



* Other eligibility requirements may apply.

**Northfield I & II CIVIC CLUB
BOARD MEMBERS**

2015

(Updated 9/2015)

Officers and Responsibilities

President	Vincent Sanders	(713) 995-5079
Vice-President	Sandra Smith	(713) 771-0965
Secretary	Allan Waghalter	(713) 771-8887
Member at Large	Miriam Eber	(713) 774-1177
Member at Large	Mishell Johnson	(713) 771-1303
Member at Large	Barrie Boisseau	(832) 229-2962
Member at Large	Charlotte Gifford-Weaver	(713) 557-9458
Member at Large	Jan Rose	(713) 772-0117
Member at Large	Jerry Selzer	(713) 771-2030
Member at Large	Ollie Ussey	(713) 271-4025
Architectural Control	Jerry Selzer	(713) 771-2030
Deed Restrictions	PCMI	(281) 504-1330
Insurance	Mickey Frost	(713) 776-3669
Property Management	Ollie Ussey	(713) 271-4025
Neighbor Relations	Vincent Sanders	(713) 995-5079
Pool Cards	Mishell Johnson	(713) 771-1303
Security	Precinct 7	(713) 643-6602
Yard of the Month & Beautification	Jan Rose	(713) 772-0117

NEIGHBORHOOD MANAGEMENT

PCMI Kaye Follie. (281)504-1330

Block Captains

Captain Coordinator	Victoria Cummings	(832) 640-0743
Bankside	Paul Katz	(832) 605-7521
Braes Forest (10700-10900)	Harvey Stalarow	(713) 270-4911
Hummingbird	Charles Hightower	(713) 276-3522
Kitty Brook (10700-10900)	Suzanne Sengele	N/A
Paulwood/Portal	Shelley Weitz	(713) 771-0409
Paulwood/Creekbend	Vacant	
Portal 7800-8000	Laykie Donin	(713) 988-1491
Rollingbrook	Ken Heberlein	(713) 988-2468
Shawnbrook/Portal	Dana Gavin	(713) 988-4774
Shawnbrook/Creekbend	Mark Hamarich	(713) 771-6404
Valley Hills/Portal	Lucia Brown	(713) 774-1967
Valley Hills/Creekbend	John Beaurn	(832) 423-6486
Vickijohn	Stanley Coleman	(713) 777-5756
Villa Lea/Portal	Mishell Johnson	(713) 771-1303
Villa Lea/Creekbend	Sharon Phillips	(713) 777-0435



Keep Houston
SAFE

**PLEASE REPORT ANY SUSPICIOUS BEHAVIOR
OR ACTIVITIES TO AUTHORITIES. CONTINUE
TO BE THE EYES & EARS OF NORTHFIELD I &
II.**

BE AWARE! BE ALERT!! BE CAREFUL!!!

Helpful Phone numbers - WHO DO I CALL?

NEIGHBORHOOD:

Dispatch- Precinct 7 Constable Office	(713) 643-6602
Brays Oaks Management District	(713) 595-1221
Crime Stoppers	(713) 222-8477
Northfield I & II Pool Telephone	(713) 774-8150
Fiesta Mart	(713) 272-2700
Wal-Mart Grocery	(713)771- 4740

UTILITIES:

Reliant Energy	
Non-working street light (give light pole number)	(713) 207-2222
Center Point (gas & power outages)	(713) 659-2111

HISD

A.A. Milne Elementary School	(713) 778-3420
HISD Police	(713) 641-7428

CITY, STATE & FEDERAL SERVICES:

Houston Services Helpline	311
Trash/Recycling – City of Houston	311
City of Houston (Public Works & Engineering)	(832) 395-2511
Major's Citizens' Assistance Office	(832) 395-9914
Animal Control (BARC)	(713) 229-7300
SPCA	(713) 769-7722
Houston Graffiti Hotline	(713) 437-6833
Texas Poison Center Helpline	(1-800) 222-1222
Houston Police (South Gessner)	(713) 236-3166
Houston Police (non-emergency)	(713) 884-3131
Houston Police Storefront	
7576 W. Bellfort Rd., Suite 100 (77071)	(713)773 -7550
Houston Fire & Ambulance	(713) 884-3140
Marian Park Community Center	(713) 773-7015
City Council District K – Larry Green	(832) 393-3016
Constable Pct 7 May Walker	(713) 643-6118
5290 Griggs Rd	
Department of Neighborhoods	(832) 393-1038
Neighborhood Protection Corps	(832) 394-0600
Enforces city codes related to open and dangerous buildings, weeded lots, junk motor vehicles, graffiti, and other nuisances on private property	
State Representative 146 Borris Miles	(713) 665-8322
2656 South Loop West, Suite 265 (77054)	
State Senator Rodney Ellis	(713) 236-0306
County Commissioner Pct 1 El Franco Lee	(713) 755-6111
Congressman Al Green 9th District	(713) 383-9234
3003 South Loop West, Suite 460	

**PLEASE NOTE: BEFORE STARTING ANY
HOME IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, YOU
WILL NEED APPROVAL FROM
ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL CHAIR**

**JERRY SELZER
(713)771-2030**

LIGHT'S OUR SECURITY, TURN THEM

ON.....





Dear Northfield Sections One and Two P.O.A. Home Owner,

We are excited to announce that PCMI has partnered with a technology company NabrNetwork to bring to you the PCMI TownSquare, which has been selected as our official, Board-approved communication tool for Northfield Sections One and Two P.O.A.! Accessible via mobile phone, tablet and desktop – and completely private.

Imagine! Like in a TownSquare, a place where Association Members can easily connect, ask questions, report Association concerns, make new friendships, volunteer in Board Approved activities, and participate in Board surveys. You can share ideas and information with your HOA Board, Management Company and neighbors!! A place where people can reach their manager and the important reliable information they need! A place to nurture and grow community spirit and communication! **Our very own TownSquare!**



A few things you can do within TownSquare:

- Receive important news from Northfield Sections One and Two P.O.A.
- Post and receive instant watch alerts to help keep our neighborhood safe
- Place a request to start a community group or volunteer on a committee
- Share your suggestions for local businesses and professional services
- Post items for sale or giveaway, or find items you're searching for right in our own community
- Report lost and found pets in real time
- Receive local news, tailored specifically to our community

Signing up is easy! If we have your email address on file, you will receive a Welcome email from PCMI TownSquare welcoming you to our private online network. Simply log in to PCMI TownSquare with the credentials provided. If we don't have your email address, or if you haven't received the email, please Access TownSquare at www.pcmi-us.com and click on the TownSquare icon and click "register". The PCMI TownSquare team will verify your address and provide you with log in credentials.

Also, be thinking about local businesses that we can invite to sponsor our TownSquare Network. This fundraising platform will enable our HOA to generate revenue from local businesses to fund special projects in our neighborhood and help to sustain our TownSquare site. Let's work together to keep our community strong. Join us at www.pcmi-us.com and click on TownSquare icon! Thank you!



We look forward to our community being more connected!

Sincerely,

Northfield Sections One and Two P.O.A. Board of Directors