

# Idylwood News

July 2015

A publication of the Idylwood Civic Club



## 4TH OF JULY ACTIVITIES

### **SOUTHWEST AIRLINES FREEDOM OVER TEXAS**

July 4, Eleanor Tinsley Park  
\$8 per person; Under 5 free  
Grab your lawn chairs and blankets for this one-of-a-kind patriotic event that is done with a style that is all Houston. The iconic Houston skyline will set the backdrop for an extraordinary patriotic celebration at Mayor Annise Parker's official Fourth of July event, Freedom Over Texas. Prolific singer-songwriter and Houston son, Clint Black and double-platinum-selling singer, songwriter Josh Turner will headline the 29-year-old annual event on the Southwest Airlines Stage that will culminate with a spectacular fireworks display by Citgo.

### **JULY 4TH CELEBRATION AT BAYOU BEND**

Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens  
July 4, 1pm-5pm FREE  
With performers, crafts, activities, refreshments, and much more, join the the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston to celebrate Independence Day at Houston's home for American decorative arts and paintings. A reading of the Declaration of Independence begins at 3 p.m. on the Diana Terrace of the Bayou Bend house and will be followed by birthday cake. And don't forget to sign the giant replica of the Declaration of Independence before you leave to remind us the freedom and privileges we have in this country.

### **EXXONMOBIL SUMMER SYMPHONY NIGHTS**

Star-Spangled Salute | Miller Outdoor Theatre  
July 4, 8:30pm FREE  
Enjoy an evening with the Houston Symphony and conductor Steven Reineke as they play patriotic classics. Be sure to stay for the finale of 1812 Overture, complete with booming cannons, which will be followed by the fireworks spectacular provided by the Miller Theatre Advisory Board. Open seating will be available on the hill, while free tickets will also be available while they last for the covered seating area. Tickets can be picked up at the Miller Outdoor Theatre box office the day of the event between 10:30 am - 1 pm.

### **HOUSTON SYMPHONY'S STAR SPANGLED SALUTE**

Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion  
July 3, 8pm - FREE  
Celebrate America's birthday with a bang at the annual Star-Spangled Salute July 3. This free Independence Eve spectacular, which has been a tradition at The Pavilion for 25 years, features the Houston Symphony in a selection of patriotic favorites. Steven Reineke conducts and is joined by vocalist Christopher Johnstone. Doors open at 6:30 pm.

### **JULY 4TH PARADE AND FESTIVAL**

Bellaire, TX  
July 4, 9:30am - Parade; 10am-1pm - Festival  
The Fourth of July parade will begin at 9:30am, led by the children's parade. To participate in the parade is free. However, only the first 75 applicants will be taken to march. Kids of all ages can march in the parade with decorative and festive bikes, wagons and even costumes, and without entering in advance. Following promptly after the parade, which will roughly be around 10am, the festival begins at the Bellaire Town Square. There will be a petting zoo, moon jumps, carnival games - including a dunk tank - and a mini Ferris wheel. Food and game tickets will be available to purchase at the festival.

### **FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION AT KEMAH BOARDWALK**

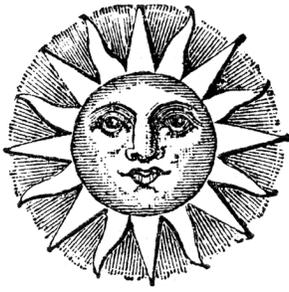
July 4, FREE.  
All day with fireworks at 9:30 pm.  
Live music & patriotic fireworks show over Galveston Bay.

### **4TH OF JULY WEEKEND AT CITYCENTRE**

July 3-5 FREE  
The July 4 weekend welcomes four nights of free concerts plus an Independence Day fireworks spectacular to CityCentre. Festivities begin on July 3 with classic rock band Legendary Rhythm Bandits from 7 until 10 PM and continue on July 4 with 90s country tunes from Mustache The Band starting at 7 PM and a fireworks spectacular at 9:30 PM.

### **INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE AND FIREWORKS SHOW**

Galveston Island - FREE  
July 4, 7:30pm - Parade (Along Seawall Boulevard from 28th Street to 53rd Street)  
Join Galveston Island residents as they commemorate America's freedom with their annual Independence Day Parade. The parade will begin at 7:30pm on Seawall Boulevard from 28th Street and will progress down to 53rd Street. It will feature local groups, performers, creative floats and decorated military vehicles. When the parade has ended, head over to 37th Street and Seawall Boulevard, where Galveston will present a 20-minute long fireworks show at 9:15pm over the waters of the Gulf.



## A FEW TIPS ON SUMMER PET CARE

Most people love to spend the warmer days enjoying the outdoors with friends and family, but it's important to remember that some activities can be dangerous for our pets. By following a few simple rules, it is easy to keep your pet safe while still having fun in the sun.

Pets can get dehydrated quickly, so give them plenty of fresh, clean water when it's hot outdoors. Make sure your pets have a shady place to get out of the sun, be careful to not over-exercise them, and keep them indoors when it's extremely hot. Susceptible pets should be kept cool in an air-conditioned environment as much as possible.

- Never leave your animals alone in a parked vehicle. On a hot day, a car can become a furnace in no time (even with the windows open) which could lead to fatal heat stroke. Also, leaving pets unattended in cars in extreme weather is illegal in several states.
- Feel free to trim longer hair on your dog, but never shave your dog. The layers of dogs' coats protect them from overheating and sunburn. Brushing cats more often than usual can prevent problems caused by excessive heat.
- When the temperature is very high, don't let your dog linger on hot asphalt. Being so close the ground, your pooch's body can heat up quickly, and sensitive paw pads can burn. Keep walks during these times to a minimum.
- Please leave pets at home when you head out to Fourth of July celebrations and never use fireworks around pets.
- Exposure to lit fireworks can result in severe burns or trauma to curious pets, and even unused fireworks can be hazardous. Many types of fireworks contain potentially toxic substances.

## ELECTION COMMITTEE NEWS

The Idylwood Civic Club's Election Committee will announce its nominees for the Club's Board of Directors for 2015-2016 at the Club's regular meeting on Tuesday, July 21st.

This year, Members will elect (or re-elect) a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer for one-year terms, and five Directors for two-year terms. All newly elected members of the Board will take office at the time of their election in August.

If you would like to be nominated for any office or know any Idylwood Civic Club Members you would like to nominate, please notify a member of the Civic Club or make nominations for any office from the floor at the July meeting.

The Election Committee will prepare a paper ballot and distribute it to all Members of the Club shortly after the July meeting. Members will be able to vote either at the Club's Annual Meeting on Tuesday, August 18th, or by an early ballot before that meeting. Write-in votes for eligible candidates for Officers and Directors also will be allowed.

## PET SITTERS

Local pet sitters available for Idylwood residents this summer! Call 713-410-3945 or email [lmollhagen@icloud.com](mailto:lmollhagen@icloud.com) or [gnomehall@gmail.com](mailto:gnomehall@gmail.com) for information and rates.



## EAST END EVENTS

### YOUNG MAKERS SEWING CAMP

Date: July 20, 2015 - July 24, 2015

Website: [www.houstonmakerspace.com](http://www.houstonmakerspace.com)

#### Event Description:

What better way for your little one to spend his or her summer than learning hands-on skills while enjoying the A/C! Join certified teacher Jill Brumer in our Children's Sewing Summer Camp, Monday through Friday from 9 AM to noon, to make some awesome treats that your child will take home! No previous experience is necessary. Your admission of \$225 includes all materials, a mid-morning snack, and one-on-one instruction. The week ends with a fashion show!

### YOUNG MAKERS CRAFT CAMP

Date: July 20, 2015 - July 24, 2015

Website: [www.houstonmakerspace.com](http://www.houstonmakerspace.com)

#### Event Description:

Join Houston Makerspace founder Maclean Smyth for a week of DIY crafts in our Young Makers Craft Camp! Over the course of five days, students will learn skills in gardening, molding, chemistry, carving, drawing, and physics through completing useful projects! Your admission of \$225 includes all materials and one-on-one instruction.

#### Houston Makerspace

3605 Texas Houston, TX 77003

Director: Maclean Smyth

Phone: 713-808-9708

## FROM HARRIS COUNTY PRECINCT 6

Attention Harris County Precinct 6 Residents:  
We are transitioning to a new dispatch number 713-274-3400.

The old number will continue to work, and will automatically transfer to our new line, but please update our contact information.

# 10 TIPS FOR SUMMER SAFETY IN TEXAS

Who doesn't love summer? With its longer days, flip-flop weather, and no need to help with your kids' math homework after a long day at work, there seems to be a lot more opportunity to get outdoors and have fun.

Unfortunately, being more active does have its risks. But rather than sit inside on the couch, just follow these ten summer safety tips to help you prepare for warm weather fun.

## 1. SWIM SAFELY

Drowning is one of the main dangers of summer, for both children and adults. If you are going swimming, make sure everyone uses the buddy system. With a big group, a pool full of people is hard to monitor. The buddy system assigns everyone only one other person to keep an eye on, making it easier to notice if someone has gone under. If anyone in your family doesn't know how to swim, sign them up for lessons.

## 2. USE SUN PROTECTION

Repeated sunburn can cause cancer after long-term exposure, but even in small doses, it's dangerous. Aside from extreme pain, sun poisoning can cause headaches, fever, nausea, and dizziness. Make sure you and your family use sunscreen every day. Try leaving a bottle near the door you exit from most often; maybe a bathroom near the kitchen or a laundry room. You'll feel more comfortable at the end of the day, and you'll maintain healthy, smooth skin as you age.

## 3. PREP FOR INJURY PREVENTION

Everyone falls down once in awhile, but you can limit serious injuries by preparing early in the season. As soon as you're ready to ride, make sure your family's bicycle helmets all fit properly. If you're cutting the grass, wear goggles to prevent debris from striking you in the eye. (If you aren't going to wear goggles, at least wear full-coverage sunglasses. They aren't perfect, but they're something!) Also check your yard for any wear and tear that occurred over the winter. Confirm the safety and sturdiness of play equipment like swing sets, and check your fence for sharp points or nails sticking out.

## 4. DON'T PLAY WITH FIRE

Summer is grilling season, so be sure to clean your barbecue pit properly and review the operating instructions for your grill. Set up your barbecue station with some distance from the house or any flammable materials. On the Fourth of July, keep fireworks safety and regulations in mind. Read up on the state-wide rules, but also check to see if your particular county has additional restrictions. And as always, be sure your home has fully-functioning smoke detection equipment and monitoring in place.

## 5. AVOID INSECTS

If you plan on spending time outdoors, it never hurts to spritz a little bug spray on yourself and your kids beforehand. Choose an insect repellent with DEET to keep away the most dangerous bugs. This will not only keep you itch-free, but you'll protect yourself against illnesses that spread through mosquito or tick bites, like the West Nile virus and Lyme disease. If your home is due, call a pest control company to treat your house to avoid Texas pests like scorpions and spiders.

## 6. UPDATE SHOTS

A little scratch you get from climbing out of a fishing boat or stepping barefoot on a rusty screw in the backyard can quickly turn from a small sharp pain into a serious infection. Check with your family pediatrician to find out if your kids are up-to-date with their DTaP vaccine series. Adults should get tetanus boosters every ten years, so check with your doctor to see if the grown-ups in your family are due.

## 7. PROTECT YOUR PETS

Even when the weather is just a little warm, never leave your dog inside a closed car. Just because it feels comfortable to you doesn't mean a dog can tolerate the temperature, as they're unable to sweat and moderate their body heat as easily as humans. If you let your dog run around outside during the day, be sure the water dish is full at all times. And don't limit your dogs' space to hard surfaces only. Concrete and asphalt can heat up and burn an animal's paws. So make sure they have access to some cool grass. It's best to leave your dog indoors while you're not home, and you can keep an eye on them from anywhere with streaming video.

## 8. MONITOR VEGETATION

Periodically throughout the summer, check your yard for poison ivy, poison oak, and sumac. If you find these plants in your yard, you can kill them with glyphosate, which can be found in the herbicide section of most home and garden stores.

## 9. PLAN SAFE RIDES

When the kids are out of school, it can be hard to keep up with playdates and who is going where and when. Try to keep a schedule of rides for planned activities in plain sight in your home, and set reminders on your phone if necessary. Also have your kids memorize your phone number in case they ever end up stranded and need a ride. Adults should also keep safe rides in mind. Pick a designated driver for parties and barbecues, or download a ride-calling app to your phone like Uber so you can always get home safely.

## 10. STAY COOL & HYDRATED

The summer heat itself can be a risk, too. Hundreds of people die every year from exposure to extreme heat. If you're going to be outside, make sure you have access to shade and bring along plenty of water. Take extra precautions for family or friends with

cardiovascular disease, and have an immediately available way to get these folks to a cool place if they begin showing signs of distress.

Having fun this summer shouldn't be interrupted by medical emergencies or injury recovery. With the right precautions, you and your family can actively enjoy the outdoors together.

## GARDEN CLUB

### RAIN, RAIN, COME AGAIN ANOTHER DAY!!

Wow! Is your garden growing or what? The rain has everything growing like crazy in Idylwood. I've seen plants and bugs grow like never before. Although I appreciate not having to run the sprinklers, a slowdown in the rainfall would be nice to dry out a little bit! Be sure to check for standing water to help eliminate the spread of mosquitoes. Also, check your trees for dead branches and perhaps consider a slight and careful thinning out some branches to help with any high winds that need to blow through. If you do choose to do some thinning out, choose a reputable tree trimmer so your tree does not get scalped. We do need the shade they provide to help cool our homes and reduce the electric bill.

### NEXT MEETING ON SAT., SEPT. 12, 2015

The Idylwood Garden Club had a busy, productive, and successful year of speakers and activities. Now it's time for everyone to relax, kick back, and enjoy the fruits of your labor. Our first meeting of the 'new year' will be Sat., Sept. 12 from 10:00 am –noon. The location will be announced in August.

Be sure to watch the newsletters and emails for any Garden Club news or activities that might pop up during our 'off' months. You can't keep a good gardener down! We're always looking for a reason to be outside!

### A BOUNTIFUL BOTANIC GARDEN

I just returned from a fabulous sailing trip to St. Vincent and The Grenadines. While in St. Vincent, I had the opportunity to tour the Botanic Gardens of St. Vincent. It is the oldest botanic garden in the Western Hemisphere and is 250 years old this year! Captain Bligh (Mutiny on the Bounty fame) brought a breadfruit tree there in 1793 and a segment of that tree is still there today! Check out the gardens with this link: [www.bgci.org/garden.php?id=314](http://www.bgci.org/garden.php?id=314). You will enjoy seeing flowers, trees, and learn about the saving of the national parrot. Enjoy!

-Patricia Hattenbach

**REPORT ALL CRIMES TO HPD. 911.  
TO REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY CALL  
713-884-3131, OPTION 0.**

Idylwood Crimes reported thru April 2015	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
*Lawndale included as of 07-09								
Theft (home or auto)	4	18	21	13	16	7	23	7
Aggravated Assault	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
Burglary (home or auto)	16	6	7	12	13	9	7	1
Narcotic Drug Laws	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	1	3	2	0	0	0	0	0

Thanks to The K Team for their generous discount



## Idylwood Civic Club 2014-2015

**President:** Amy Dinn, Sylvan, acdinn@gmail.com

**Vice President:** Larry Brown, Larryh7@sbcglobal.net

**Treasurer:** Fred Towersey, ftowersey@kipphouston.org

**Secretary:** Joni Mueller, joni@jonimueller.com

Directors: Class A, 1 Year

1. **Barney Giesen**, Meadowlawn, barneygiesen@sbcglobal.net
2. **Sally Harris**, Lindy, sallyzen@hotmail.com
3. **Tim Kirwin**, Lindy, tbk38@hotmail.com
4. **J.D. Baumgartner**, Meadowlawn, johndbaumgartner@yahoo.com
5. **Laura Manion**, Meadowlawn, manion@post.harvard.edu

Directors: Class B, 2 Year

6. **Judy Berno**, MacGregor, judyberno@gmail.com
7. **Lawrence Curry**, Meadowlawn, curry6734@sbcglobal.net
8. **Jeff Klemm**, Merry, jeffklem@hotmail.com
9. **Diane Kopfensteiner**, Fairfield, diane@gandgmodelshop.com
10. **Paul Leggett**, Merry, paul\_d\_leggett@hotmail.com
11. **Stephen Palmer**, Meadowlawn, spalmer68@earthlink.net

Copies of minutes from general meetings can be requested from the Secretary

**If you suspect a deed restriction violation, please detail it in writing to the address below:**

**Idylwood Civic Club Association**

P.O. Box 9225 Houston, TX 77261-9225

www.idylwood.org

**Newsletter Editor:** Allison McPhail

allison.mcphail@gmail.com

**Idylwood Webmaster:** Joni Mueller

www.pixelita.com

**Crime Reporting:**

Emergency: 911

**Or HPD non-emergency:** (713) 884-3131

**Animal Control:** (713) 229-7300

**Neighborhood Protection:** Contact 311

## DATES TO REMEMBER:

**Independence Day** – Saturday, July 4th

**Curbside Recycling** - July 6th and July 20th

**Heavy Trash** - July 7th “Tree” pickup (Even months are junk, odd months are tree)

**Idylwood Civic Club Meeting:** July 21, 2015 7:30 p.m.

**Newsletter Deadline** – Friday, July 24th

**Garden Club** – Does not meet until September 12th

## Get Connected!

**NEXTDOOR.COM** - Great way to connect with East End residents. It's a great place to report or look for a missing pet, announce a garage sales, put out a crime alert, etc. This site is endorsed and its use encouraged by HPD.

**WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/IDYLWOOD**

**FOR PARENTS - Search “iKids” (closed Facebook group) to find out about family activities in the neighborhood.**

**YAHOO Email Group Please join the Idylwood Community Exchange.** [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Idylwood\\_Community\\_Exchange/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Idylwood_Community_Exchange/)