

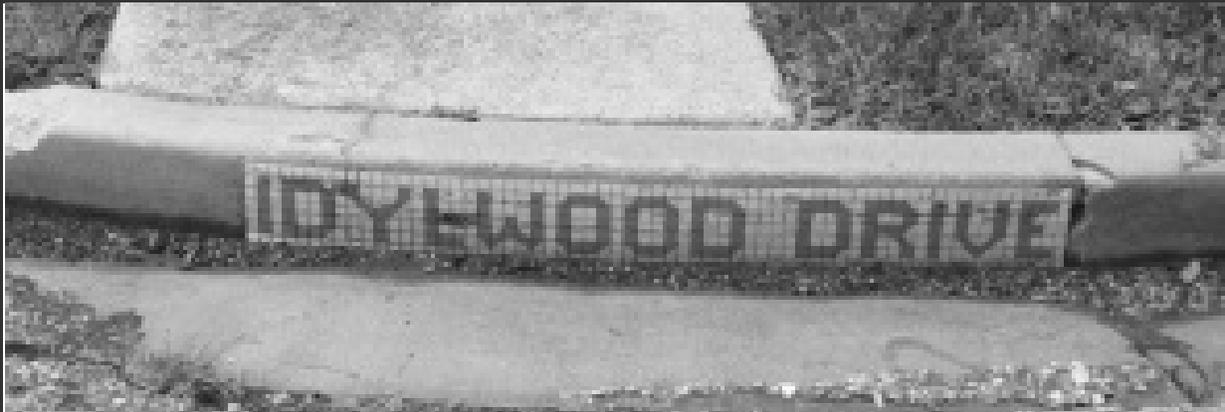


Idylwood
In Houston's Historic East End

Idylwood News

January 2018

A publication of Idylwood Civic Club



Greetings!

Happy New Year! Welcome to 2018. We have an exciting year ahead of us as Idylwood celebrates 90 years since our subdivision's founding in 1928. We hope you will join us in commemorating our neighborhood through a series of anniversary events that will kick off this year, including a proposed home tour and reunion party both scheduled for Saturday, October 6, 2018. Mark your calendar and plan to join us. If you are interested in helping to volunteer with either of these events, please contact me at president@idylwood.org.

Also, welcome to our new format for the newsletter. If you know someone that is not yet subscribed to our online newsletter, have them text IDYLWOOD to 22828 to sign up today. It's that easy to get this newsletter delivered to your inbox.

Thank you,
Amy Dinn, President
Idylwood Civic Club

Keep in Touch with your Civic Club



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January 16th Meeting

At our next Civic Club meeting, we will have a speaker from the Galveston Bay Foundation (GBF) to share the results of its 2017 Report Card. The Galveston Bay Report Card is a citizen-driven, scientific analysis of the health of Galveston Bay. With a goal of engaging community members in meaningful discussion about Bay health topics, the GBF designed the report card to inspire people to take actions that protect and preserve the Bay. Come learn what grade the Bay received in 2017.

Garden Club News

Next Garden Club Meeting on Sat., Jan. 13, 2018 – Happy New Year!

* Where: the home of Kristina Arscott at 6615 Meadowlawn

* When: from 10:00 am- noon;

10:00	Meet, greet, sign in, and get refreshments
10:20	Conduct the Business meeting
10:30	Introduce Guest speaker/Program begins
11:15	Continue with Program Q & A; enjoy more food and fellowship
12:00	Meeting adjourns

* Who: Idylwood residents- current and 'new' members are welcome to enjoy the festivities. Registration forms will be available and dues are only \$ 20.00 for the year (cash is preferred).

* Guest speaker: A Texas Forest Service representative will talk about good trees for historic neighborhoods- just in time to get our 90th Year Anniversary Celebration started!!

*Treats: We will have fabulous food and a few door prizes.

*RSVP by Jan. 11 to IGC Secretary, Deb Carpenter at debcarpenter09@gmail.com and to

Kristina at platypusid@att.net . We want to be sure and have enough delicious food!!

January Yard of the Month

This month the honors go to Ines and Diana Quintanilla! Keep up the wonderful work that helps make Idylwood a beautiful place to live!

The December Meeting Welcomed the Idylwood Holiday Season and Many New Residents!!

The Garden Club welcomed the start of the holiday season with another great gathering of friends, new neighbors, food, and a fun gift exchange! Yolanda Alvarado hosted the December 2nd meeting at her home. It was beautifully decorated and created the most festive atmosphere. The members brought a variety of sweet and savory dishes to compliment a huge pan of Frenchy's fried chicken. There was plenty of conversation and sharing of the latest developments in the members' gardens and getting to know many new Idylwood residents! However, the fun began with our usual gift exchange. As each member selected a wrapped package, it didn't take long for the next person to 'steal' a delightful gift. Well, strategies emerged and folks gave in to the hilarity! Suggestion: Make plans to attend this annual holiday party next year!

Tips On Trimming Your Crape Myrtle

(and not committing "Crape Murder" OR You Can Skip The Trimming!)

Mid February is the time to prune Crape myrtles, if you just think it must be done. Light interior small branch/twig trimming, not severe sawing of all limbs, is the recommended approach to achieve a balanced and gracefully shaped tree. The following link has very good photos and an explanation of how to achieve a beautiful tree with lots of blooms. <http://www.finegardening.com/pruning-crape-myrtles> . Be sure to click 'All' for ease of viewing the entire article.

Gardening and Nature Articles Worth Reading and Keeping!

Find a copy of the Saturday, December, 30, 2017 Houston Chronicle Star Section. There are three wonderful and informative articles that speak directly to how our neighborhood can help keep our community environmentally healthy and vibrant.

1. ["Blooming plants help wild bees during winter in your yard"](#) by Dean Fosick

Learn how what we plant will help the bees survive and in turn they our gardens thrive.

2. "Great horned owl a midnight sentry" by Gary Clark and photograph by Kathy Adams Clark. Gain an appreciation of this magnificent bird's lifestyle and see how it is a 'recycler'!
3. "Trees fight flooding- Houston needs a lot more" by Barry Ward

Barry Ward is the executive director of Trees for Houston and he provides a stunning overview of the importance of trees in our communities.

Gardening Tips for January by Buchanan's Native Plants

Plant Vegetables from transplants like broccoli, cauliflower, strawberries, collards, and lettuce.

Plant Seeds for lettuce, radish, and carrots. Begin seeding spring tomatoes inside.

Plant Rosebushes in prepared soil where they receive 6-8 full hours of sun every day. Prune rosebushes in February.

Plant Fruiting Plants such as blueberries and black berries; it is a good time to get them established.

Focus on cool season color such as pansies and violas, snapdragons, and dianthus. Get green Foxgloves, hollyhocks, larkspur, poppies, and delphiniums in your beds now for a gorgeous Spring show.

Plant Spring flowering trees and shrubs such as redbuds, fringe trees, Mexican plums, azaleas and spirea. Now is a great time to plant.

Fertilize established trees and shrubs, except Azaleas and camellias with a good all-around organic fertilizer like MicroLife.

Water- Maintain watering on newly planted seeds and transplants. Containers also need more frequent water than plants in the ground. Watch for drought stress between rain showers and water well before upcoming freezes to reduce plant stress

Pests- Loopers and Aphids are on the prowl. Keep a close eye on plants and catch them early. Treat with the least toxic method possible. Find and squish loopers or treat with organic BT. Spray away aphids with a strong stream of water or treat with insecticidal soap.

Lawns- Best way to control early spring weeds: dig them by hand. Easiest way: MOW THEM. They will die out when it gets warm. We do not recommend "weed & feed" products. Keep fallen leaves raked up so lawn grasses can receive adequate sunlight. Reuse leaves in beds as mulch or add to compost bins.

Pruning - Crepe Myrtles need no pruning. If you must, you may **shape gently** now, but don't commit Crepe Murder. Wait to prune **spring flowering trees** such as deciduous magnolias, Mexican plums, and redbuds until after they bloom.

Birds- Keep bird baths scrubbed and filled with clean water. Keep seed in feeders fresh. After rain check for moist or damp seed, replace promptly to keep birds healthy and happy. Continue to put out suet cakes for high energy winter snacks.

Freezes- Keep an eye on the weather and stay informed on night time lows. Have frost cloth on hand for light frosts. Water plants thoroughly before a freeze to protect roots. If the temperature drops below 32 double wrap tender plants to ensure proper insulation. Avoid using plastic against foliage, but it can be used as the second exterior layer when covering plants. Remove plastic during the day.

TIP: *Heavy duty clothespins or spare bricks can be used to secure and weigh down cloths.*

Mark Your Calendars for the Second Half of Our Year of Great Meetings and Garden Club Events!

Jan. 13: Texas Forest Service- Replacement Trees for Historic Neighborhoods

Feb. 3: Houston Botanic Garden – Claudia Gee Vassar (Interim Director)

March 3: Field trip- TBD

April 7: The Herb Society

May 5: Idylwood “Friendraising” Plant Sale

We will also participate in some of Idylwood’s 90th Anniversary festivities and projects. Details will be provided for each event as the years progresses.



[View our Crime Stats](#)



[Join our Citizen Patrol](#)

Jake Goldstein and Steve

We had a series of aggressive break ins in Idylwood as December came to a close. Overall, crime was down in 2017 compared to other years, but we need to remain vigilant. Please keep an eye out for unusual activity and report to HPD and the Constable's office.

Historic crime rates for the neighborhood will be posted on the website by Feb. 2018.

Palmer co-chair our patrol group and report the group's collective 30 patrol hours per month to HPD. More information on HPD's Volunteer Citizen Patrol is available [here](#). Please contact them if you are interested in volunteering with our citizens patrol group.



PIP Report

Eastside Civic PIP Meetings take place on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30pm at the Houston Police Department Eastside Station (7525 Sherman). Questions? Please contact our new PIP Representative, Greg Shaw, at 713-201-3748.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

- **01/02/2018: Heavy Trash Collection - TREE WASTE**
- **01/02/2018: Recycling Day**
- **01/15/2018: Recycling Day**
- **01/15/2018: Eastside PIP Meeting- 6:30 pm (7525 Sherman)**
- **01/16/2018: Idylwood Civic Club Mtg - 7:30 pm (St. Austin Center)**
- **01/29/2018: Recycling Day**
- **02/06/2018: Heavy Trash Collection - JUNK WASTE**
- **02/12/2018: Recycling Day**
- **02/18/2018: Eastside PIP Meeting - 6:30 pm (7525 Sherman)**
- **02/19/2018: Idylwood Civic Club Mtg - 7:30 pm (St. Austin Center)**
- **02/26/2018: Recycling Day**



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Neighborhood Notes

Our longtime neighbor, Evelyn Benfield at 6644 Sylvan, has moved out of the neighborhood to live with her niece. We will miss her at the Civic Club meetings and her warm smile. Evelyn was extremely generous in helping install the new street lamps through the neighborhood in 2017. We will miss seeing her in the neighborhood.

If you have notes about an Idylwood neighbor that you would like to submit for the newsletter, please submit to editor@idylwood.org.

Idylwood Officers and Directors 2017-2018

PRESIDENT: Amy Dimm (Sylvan)

VICE PRESIDENT: Laura Manion (Meadowlawn)

TREASURER: Kendall Qualls (Meadowlawn)

SECRETARY: Kimberly Vincent (Park)

Directors: Class A (two-year terms ending in August 2019): Charlie Storer (Fairfield); Richard Vela (Lindy); Richard Carpenter (Lawndale); Lee Carpenter (Park); Patricia Hattenbach (North MacGregor Way)

Directors: Class B (two-year terms ending in August 2018): Judy Berno (North MacGregor Way); Lawrence Curry (Meadowlawn); Jeff Klemm (Merry); Paul Leggett (Merry); Jennifer Silva (Idylwood); Chris Simmons (Merry)