

## WLP Civic Association Board Members

**President:** Gilda Bayegan

**Secretary:** Elaine Khalil

**Past President:** Diane Kiecke

**Website:** [www.wlpc.org](http://www.wlpc.org)

**Directors:** Marj Elhardt,

Mike Ginzel,

Phyllis Maddox,

Mary McDaniel,

Darryl Shields,

and

Barbara Staley

**Vice President:** Fisher Trigg

**Treasurer:** Michael Paneral

**Newsletter:** Anna Dean

**Webmaster:** Marj Elhardt

## **DEAR NEIGHBORS:**

Some of us have commented that we feel we're in a vacuum and have lost perspective on the passage of time. With so many traditions, holidays, routines, and supplies disrupted, our days might seem to be going down the Rabbit Hole. But on this side of the Looking Glass, it's spring and we're about to hold our **Annual Meeting**, our first indoor in-person meeting in two years.

This yearly event triggers reflection on our neighborhood and the role of the WLPCA. Perhaps in the past we could enjoy our safe, lovely neighborhood without having to do much to keep it that way other than tend our gardens and maintain our homes, but we no longer can afford that luxury. **Crimegrade.org gives our zip code a D+** (for comparison, Detroit is graded C-) and **HPD identified 77027 as having the highest increase in violent crime in the city, up 109% over 2019**, the greatest activity occurring at the CVS at Westheimer and **610**. These startling statistics aside, most of us feel the elevated threat and take precautions every day, but **we must all be aware, we must all take precautions, and we must all be engaged.**

To strengthen West Lane Place, we need to work together, and one of the best ways to work together is through our civic association. Our residents possess tremendous talent, skill, and experience. Tapping into those assets, we can solve tremendous problems if all of us work together. The more of us who join and volunteer, the greater our impact will be.

I've seen many changes and met my best friends during the thirty years I've lived in West Lane Place. This neighborhood is uniquely situated as a respite in the midst of uber urban turmoil. I believe you agree that we live in a remarkable area; that's why you choose to be here. I hope you'll make every effort to keep it the safe and calm respite we love. **If you haven't yet, please join the WLPCA and attend our annual meeting. If you're already a member, please renew and become a volunteer. If you're already a member and a volunteer, thank you!**

See you May 3,

Gilda Bayegan, President of WLPCA

## \*\*WLPCA Annual Meeting\*\*

**Tuesday, May 3**

**6:00 Social; 6:30 Meeting**

**Offices of Compass Real Estate  
10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Park Place  
4200 Westheimer**

*(Please see Page 3 for more information!)*

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This newsletter is published and delivered to you by the West Lane Place Civic Association

The views and opinions expressed herein are those of the author(s) of each article, and not necessarily those of the WLPCA.

Please contact Phyllis Maddox concerning any problems you may experience receiving your newsletter.

## WLPCA Membership: Dues are Due

It's time to renew membership for 2022 – 2023. As always, dues are minuscule.

**\$25 per person per year  
\$15 for Seniors**

With your modest dues, you support the activities of the civic association, a group of neighbors just like you, who volunteer their time in service to our community.

**Our civic association is vital to the wellbeing of West Lane Place because we:**

1. Amplify neighborhood concerns, compelling the attention of our police and elected officials.
2. Organize interactions between neighbors, and between neighbors and first responders through planned events such as Neighbor's Night Out in the fall and unplanned encounters we facilitate by distributing a directory of members' contact information.
3. Alert neighborhood email subscribers with information important to our neighborhood.
4. Provide and maintain signage for West Lane Place and Crime Watch.
5. Publish and distribute this newsletter.

**How do you join or renew membership?** You will find a membership form and application included with this newsletter that you can complete and mail in the addressed envelope along with your check (you'll have to stamp it.) This year, **for your convenience, we added an on line applications and dues payment feature.** Visit our website, [www.wlPCA.org](http://www.wlPCA.org) at the bottom of the first page, in the green banner labeled "Become a Member."

You also can sign up, renew, and pay your dues at our Annual Meeting on May 3.

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### Attempted Armed Break-ins on Mid Lane

In the early morning of **Monday, March 21**, residents in the 2700 block of Mid Lane discovered an intruder had breached the walls of their private garden and was attempting to break the glass to enter their house. When detected, he ran away, leaving behind his jacket and cap. While police were at the scene investigating, the same guy tried to break the glass next door. When apprehended, he claimed to be the boyfriend of the second neighbor, returning to pick up his clothes.

Thankfully our neighbors suffered no physical injury during these attempted invasions, but **police found a gun** in the patio of the second home. They arrested the intruder and charged him with **unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon.**

As this incident proves, we must be vigilant, keep our houses locked, and our alarms turned on even when we are at home.

The members we propose for the 2022 - 2023 West Lane Place Civic Association Board of Directors are the same individuals who served on the 2021 - 2022 board, but their positions will change a bit. On March 31, the nominating committee sent the following message to the board, which was quickly approved by all board members:

We are happy to announce the slate for Directors and Officers for the upcoming term, and are seeking your approval of the slate as soon as possible so that we may finalize the newsletter and send it out in short order. The approved slate will then be voted upon by the WLPCA membership at the Annual Meeting in May.

#### Directors

We are especially grateful that the following Directors, whose terms are expiring, have agreed to run for another two-year term:

**Mike Ginzel**

**Darryl Shields**

**Barbara Staley**

#### Officers

Our current VP, Fisher Trigg, will run as President, while Pat Holmes has graciously agreed to run as VP (to become the future President in 2 years), and Mike Paneral and Elaine Khalil have each agreed to run for another term.

**President - Fisher Trigg**

**Vice President – Pat Holmes**

**Treasurer – Michael Paneral**

**Secretary – Elaine Khalil**

In addition to the members that ask for your vote to renew their terms, three of our current directors' two-year terms remain in effect for the coming year: Mary McDaniel, Phyllis Maddox, and Marj Elhardt.

We ask WLPCA members to approve the new slate by voting at the Annual Meeting on May 3.

**If you are not yet a member of the WLPCA, you will have the opportunity to join at the Annual Meeting on May 3 and vote that evening as a member.**

**When: Tuesday, May 3**

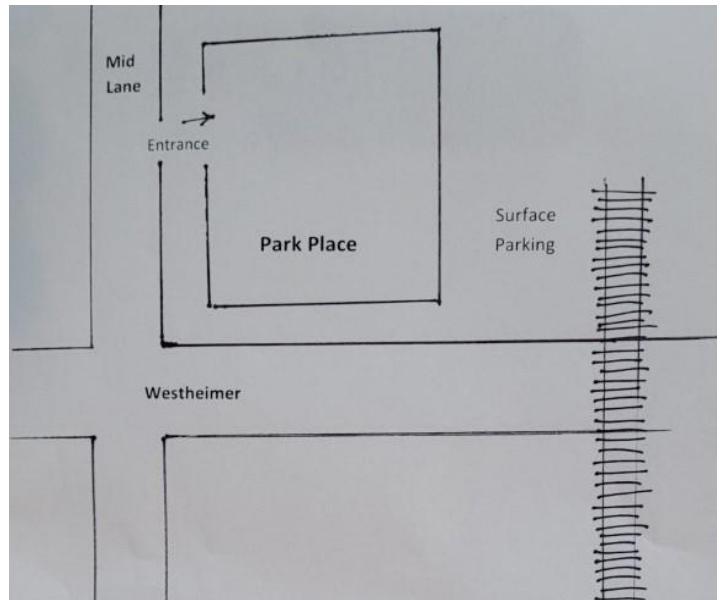
**What time: 6:00 Social; Meeting begins at 6:30**

**Where: Park Place, 4200 Westheimer, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
in the offices of **Compass Real Estate** (thanks to  
our Past WLPKA President, Diane Kiecke)

**What: Election of 2022-2023 Board of Directors**  
and meet **District G Councilwoman, Mary Nan Huffman**

**What else: Special West Lane Place cocktail**  
created and donated by **Patrick Henry**, West Lane Drive;  
light snacks provided by WLPKA

**Parking:** Free surface parking available or paid parking in the garage



The West Lane Place Civic Association invites all members to attend our **Annual Meeting** in the luxurious offices of **Compass Real Estate**, located on the tenth floor of Park Place, in the northeast corner of Mid Lane and Westheimer.

Thanks to the influence of our **Past President, Diane Kiecke**, who enjoys a big corner office there, Compass has generously offered to let us gather in their reception area and meeting space on the Tenth Floor where we will be high enough to admire most of Houston.

Annual Meeting Committee members **Mary McDaniel**, Hackberry Lane, **Phyllis Maddox**, Mid Lane, and **Barbara Staley**, West Lane Drive, are organizing volunteers to guide you once you're on the property. Volunteers also will be on the Tenth Floor to check you in, accept dues payments, and enroll new members.

We will serve light nibbles and beverages starting at 6:00 before the meeting begins at 6:30.

## **Our Oak Trees**

by 2014 - 2016 WLPKA president, **Jane Root**, Mid Lane

Not counting the wonderful residents of West Lane Place, the assets most cherished in our neighborhood are our magnificent trees. As we walk (or drive!) through the streets of West Lane Place, one cannot avoid noticing the hundreds of stately live oaks shading our yards and streets. Many of these trees are at least eighty years old, and over the years have grown into large and gorgeous specimens. There is no denying that these trees need maintenance and pruning and extra special care. There is also no denying that they can be a nuisance during March and April when they shed their leaves and pollen, and make a total mess. But it's all worth it because of the joy and beauty they provide the rest of the year, especially in the summer when it is beastly hot.



District G Councilwoman Huffman

Our new **City Councilwoman, Mary Nan Huffman**, will join us at the meeting, and we will elect our next WLPKA board.

Thanks to **Patrick Henry** of West Lane Drive, who is an expert in the field of mixing, we'll be mixing business with pleasure! Patrick, owner of **PHCP**, a **Beverage Marketing Company**, is creating a special West Lane Place cocktail for our meeting that will be revealed that evening.

If you are not yet a member of the WLPKA, you will have the opportunity to sign up at the meeting and vote in the election.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Over the years, there have been many fights to preserve these trees when builders tried to remove some of them as the neighborhood was developed. Fortunately, most of these battles have been won. In most instances, builders have made extra efforts to preserve these trees during construction of homes. On rare occasions, a resident might decide that a tree interferes with his/her vision of his/her property and cuts down or cuts back one of our neighborhood treasures. There is no rationale for this kind of action.

Please respect and maintain our trees, and please try to do everything you can to prevent them from being cut down or cut back without reason. They truly make West Lane Place a beautiful neighborhood!

**APRIL**

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	<b>4</b>	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<b>E</b>	<b>18</b>	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	<b>J</b>	28	29	30

**MAY**

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	<b>2</b> *AM*	4	5	6	7	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	<b>16</b>	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24		26	27	28
29	<b>30</b>	31				

**JUNE**

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	<b>13</b>	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21		23	24	25
26	<b>27</b>	28	29	30		

**JULY**

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	<b>11</b>	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	<b>25</b>	26	<b>J</b>	28	29	30
31						

 = Tree waste; **J** = Junk waste pick up

**Weekly household trash pick up on Mondays.** NOTE: Recycling is **every other Monday**, on highlighted days in boxes. Please have your bins out on the curb by 7 am and in by 10 pm.

“Tree Waste” is defined as “clean wood waste such as tree limbs, branches, and stumps (lumber, furniture, and treated wood will NOT be accepted.)”

“Junk Waste” is defined as “items such as furniture, appliances, and other bulky material.”

**W LPCA Annual Meeting Tuesday, May 3**

The West Lane Place Civic Association invites all members to attend our **Annual Meeting** at **6:00** on **May 3** in the spacious offices of **Compass Real Estate**, located on the tenth floor of Park Place, in the northeast corner of Mid Lane and Westheimer. Please read about it inside on Page 3.

**Recycling Alternatives**

If you need to dispose items that can’t go into the green bins, or if you’re looking for better ways to spare the environment by re-using rather than recycling, here are some suggestions.

Take **clean, folded newspapers** to the **Wildlife Center of Texas** located next to the SPCA at **7007 Old Katy Rd.** (across from the design center and next to the Jaguar/Land Rover dealership.) They use them to line the incubators of distressed and orphaned wild animals.

Obnoxious **plastic shopping bags** can go to a bin at **Central Market** to be recycled rather than blown into the sea to entangle unfortunate sea life.

Someday, when Martian archeologists eventually explore Planet Earth, their digs will uncover huge landfills full of **styrofoam peanuts** because they never go away. Why not extend their usefulness by re-using them? If you can’t re-use them yourself, take clean peanuts to a shipping service, like the **Post N Parcel** at 3733 Westheimer.

**Are You New to West Lane Place?**

We are on the lookout for every new neighbor who moves into West Lane Place, but one or two of you might slip past us. If you recently moved here and we never visited you, please let us know. Our **Newcomers Chair, Susan Simpson**, would like to greet you.

Please contact Susan through either of the following email addresses:

**Newcomers@WLPCA.org** or

**SusanSimpsonInc@gmail.com**

**Crime Watch Volunteers Needed**

In the past, law enforcement officers cited our volunteer Crime Watch patrol as a major contributor to the low crime rates we had in West Lane Place. Unfortunately, **our crime rates have shot up dramatically in the last few years and our Crime Watch program has simultaneously fizzled out**. We need to revive our program, and we must have volunteers to do it.

Volunteers observe only, never confront suspicious persons.

**Please contact Security Chair, Mohammad Bayegan, to become involved. Security@WLPCA.org**