

President's Message

It was about this time last year that I got the email – the Mangum Manor sign that welcomes people to our neighborhood at Antoine and 290 had been spray-painted with some crude graffiti. Technically, I wasn't even officially the President yet as the civic club constitution stipulates June 1st as the start date, but already here was a problem and I was on the line. This message was quickly followed up with another mentioning there was leftover old paint and some brushes that would be soon dropped off at my house. What had I signed up for?

I accepted the task with grace and was soon out painting the sign Saturday morning. Nevermind the graffiti, the old wood sign was showing its age and needed a new coat of paint anyway. As I waited for the first coat to dry, I ran home to get some clippers and then cut back some of the overgrowth around the sign. After I applied the white paint to the raised lettering, which really brightened it up, I also picked up some trash around and in the bushes. This all took but a few hours, but now the sign looked almost as new, the hedges tidied and all the litter removed, the bright white letters once again boldly proclaiming Mangum Manor. It also sent a message to whoever had sprayed the graffiti on it that Mangum Manor was not the type of neighborhood that would just ignore or neglect something so disgusting and brazen as the defacement of its sign.

It has now been about a year since the sign painting and initially I was not going to run for another term as President. We have a young and fast-growing son and I'm often working hard towards a senior-level engineer promotion at work. But after the outpouring of community spirit from the Park Regrowth tree-planting project as well as the many kind and heartfelt remarks from my fellow Mangum Manor neighbors and friends I have re-evaluated and decided to run for President once again.

Mangum Manor is beginning to undergo major changes. Property values are rising, new folks are moving in and joining our community, the reconstruction and modernization of 290 will have lasting effects, new homes will be constructed from dirt here for the first time in perhaps decades, some businesses have closed and new ones popped up.

Like the impromptu sign painting, changes can be hard to understand at first and appear daunting. However, with a bit of grace and determination and taking a step back to break the challenge down, anything is possible and can even become rewarding along the way. With helping hands and the spirit of community, like the tree-planting project in Mangum Manor after the horrible 2011 drought, great things can be achieved.

Scott Lewis

Mangum Manor Civic Club Membership Form

Name(s): _____ Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Annual Dues \$15

Beautification \$ _____

Social Events \$ _____

Deed Restrictions \$ _____

Make check payable to: Mangum Manor Civic Club

Mail to: Mangum Manor Civic Club
P.O. Box 924305
Houston, TX 77292

Mangum Manor *Since 1955*

Volume XV Issue IV • Mangum Manor is Deed Restricted • www.MangumManor.org • May 2013

Next Civic Club Meeting

Date/Time: Thursday, May 16, 2013 at 7:15 PM

Location: Scarborough High School Library

Speaker: Traci Elsner, City of Houston

All Mangum Manor Residents welcome!

Councilmember Ellen Cohen postpones civic club meeting visit

Councilmember Cohen will be unable to attend the May civic club meeting as she must travel out of state to visit her 98-year old mother who suffered a fall last week. Her office has agreed to reschedule her visit to Mangum Manor for sometime in the fall when meetings resume after the summer break.

Traci Elsner to talk Chapter 42

Have you heard of the recently passed update to the City of Houston's Code of Ordinances? In a nutshell, Chapter 42 is the city's set of codes dealing with land development and a recently passed set of updates change a number of aspects of the codes. Traci Elsner, the Communications Director for Councilmember Cohen, will be speaking about Chapter 42 at the May civic club meeting on May 16.

One of the more prominent changes is extending the range of the ordinance concerning the number of homes that may be placed on an acre of land from Loop 610 out to the Sam Houston Tollway. Currently, inside the loop, no more than about 27 homes may be placed on an acre, and the number outside the loop is about 15.

Facebook Changes

If you follow Mangum Manor Civic Club on Facebook, we are trying out the Group format as it can provide for better discussions than the Page format. Check it out: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/mangummanor>

Heavy Trash Reminder

Heavy Trash Pickup Is Now 4th Tuesday Every Month
The City of Houston changed this last October. You may now also only leave heavy trash(junk or yard waste) out for pickup as early as the preceding Friday at 6 PM.

Park ReGrowth Project Plants 11 Oaks

The project to plant 11 new oak trees in Mangum Manor Park following the devastating drought of 2011 has succeeded! After the civic club board voted to provide \$500 towards the project following discussion at the March civic club meeting and gaining official approval from the City of Houston Parks and Recreation department at the end of April, the tree-planting was held Saturday, May 4 at 9 AM.

With some last minute *heroic* efforts by the Grissetts, the 11 oaks (4 red, 4 live, 2 bur and 1 chinquapin) were sited, prepped, planted, watered, mulched and staked by 15 volunteers, young and not as young, as well as 2 city officials.



May 2013 YARDS OF THE MONTH

3803 April

5214 Poinciana

4107 Donna Lynn

2012-13 Mangum Manor Civic Club Calendar

The Mangum Manor Civic Club has the remaining date for 2012-13:

Civic Club General Meetings 7:15 PM at Scarborough HS.

- **Thursday, May 16, 2013**
 - Guest Speaker – Traci Elsner on Chapter 42
 - Elections for 2012-13 Board Officers



2013-14 Mangum Manor Civic Club Calendar

The newly elected 2013-14 Mangum Manor Civic Club Board will take office on June 1, 2013 and will be working together over the summer to plan a great 2013-14 civic club calendar of events. Look for it in the September 2013 Mangum Manor Civic Club newsletter.

The first 2013-14 Civic Club General Meeting will be Tues, September 17, 2013 at 7:15 PM at Scarborough HS.

Your Input Needed!

The civic club does not move forward on its own, it needs you and your input! Consider some of the following ideas:

What kind of events would you like to see in the 2013-14 year?

What sorts of topics or guest speakers would you like to see at meetings?

What would you feel most excited/interested in volunteering for?

Do you think current civic club dues are too low, too high or just fine?

Are there issues in our neighborhood not being given due attention?

Should there be more opportunities to get to know your neighbors via social events?

What are the high and low points about Mangum Manor?

Email responses to some, all or none of these questions to:

contact@mangummanor.org



Waste Collection 2013

You can legally put your tree waste or junk waste out starting at 6:00 pm the Friday before Tree- or Junk-Waste collection.

Tuesday, May 28 - Tree Waste

Tuesday, June 25 - Junk Waste

Tuesday, July 23 – Tree Waste

Tuesday, August 27 – Junk Waste

Tuesday, September 24 – Junk Waste



Recycling Collection 2013

Thursday, May 9 & 23

Thursday, June 6 & 20

Thursday, July 5 & 18

Thursday, August 1, 15 & 29

Thursday, September 12 & 26

Civic Club 2013-14 Officer Elections

The 2013-14 Mangum Manor Civic Club Officer Elections will be held at the May civic club meeting. Nominations were taken at the April meeting but some positions were left open and additional nominations will be accepted up until the election.

The following positions and candidates will be voted upon at the May meeting:

President – Scott Lewis

Vice President – Shelly Shindler

Secretary – Angela Smith

Treasurer – Melissa Bates

Section I Representative (2 slots) - Berta Jacobs, Brad Young

Section II Representative (2 slots) - Leah Salinas, Terry Rhodes

Section III Representative (2 slots) – open

The only requirement for any officer position is that you are a resident of Mangum Manor and have paid your annual dues. For section representatives, you should be a resident of that section. If you're wondering, Section III covers the area east of the easement space that extends south through Mangum Manor Park, from the bayou to Lamonte. What brave souls live in Section III?

Following the results of the elections at the May meeting, the newly elected officers formally take office June 1st.



Energy Star Sale

May 25-27 2013 is a sales tax holiday weekend on many types of Energy Star-certified products. Included are dishwashers, ceiling fans, refrigerators, light bulbs, air conditioners and much more. Learn more at <http://bit.ly/cG7yv>

Where is the LARGEST Red Oak in Mangum Manor???

Do you know where the largest red oak tree in Mangum Manor is? It is estimated red oaks can easily live over 200 years. Do you have one of these ancients living in your yard? Please measure the diameter of the trunk with a tape measure and email

contact@mangummanor.org

Pending comparison and verification, the measurement and location will be listed on a new page on the Mangum Manor Civic Club website. Subsequent Largest Tree champions will search for other tree varieties.

Park Problems Revisited, Again

After a few more visits by the Houston Police Department to Mangum Manor Park via phone calls to HPD's Non-emergency number, the two groups of regular drinkers seem to have moved on and have not been seen in some weeks now. This makes our park a safer, more enjoyable place for everyone and was only made possible by the vigilance and persistence of those people who took a few moments to make a call whenever there was a problem.

Houston Police Department Non-Emergency

(713)884-3131

Department of Neighborhoods presents at April meeting

The City of Houston Department of Neighborhoods had several speakers at the April civic club meeting. Myra Hippolite, Gerald Lawson and Trina Tillman spoke on the many things the department does for the residents of Houston. The DoN not only helps protect neighborhoods from blight, but also serves to community by serving as an extension of social services for those in need.

Among the more interesting points presented:

Overgrown yards are actionable upon reaching 9" tall.

A junk vehicle is one that cannot start and drive at least 100 feet. Vehicles may also be cited for expired safety or state registration.

The city is currently exercising zero tolerance for trash being placed out for collection too early. For heavy trash, this is either the wrong type(junk placed out on a tree waste collection month, for example) or placed out too early, which is mandated as no earlier than 6 PM the preceding Friday.

An important thing to remember is that builders and contractors are legally responsible for removing debris they incur in the course of contracted work.

The group also requested that people always call 311 instead of contacting them directly to report issues so the city may record and dispatch the request to appropriate departments as well as provide a tracking number for your request.

Summertime!

There are no civic club meetings or newsletters during the summer. Have a great summer and see you in the Fall! The first 2013-14 civic club meeting will be Tuesday, September 17, 2013 at Scarborough High School.