VOL 9, ISSUE 4

Fall 2013



New Braeswood

ASSOCIATION

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AESWOOD

SEAL Security

We have received a wonderful response from so many of you regarding our security service, S.E.A.L. Many of you have told us that our neighborhood feels safer with the constant presence of a security officer. Our officer, Greg Wosiak, spends his 40-hour week driving up and down all the streets of Old Braeswood and often walking the sidewalks. His days and hours are varied so as to keep the bad guys guessing. We have had several officers work for us and they are all excellent. Greg is constantly on the lookout for suspicious activity. When he finds something suspicious, he follows the car, cars, or people until they leave the neighborhood. He notes the suspicious activity, records relevant information and forwards it to his office and sends a copy of the report to our manager and Board members. The number of loitering cars and people who come through the neighborhood each week is significant. As a result of SEAL's highly visible presence, the number of break-in's to cars and homes has decreased. No security service can guarantee that there will be no crime within our boundaries, but the few burglaries that have occurred were during off duty hours.

Thank you to all of you who paid for this service. Unfortunately, we do not currently have 100% participation. As you know he covers all the houses and therefore we hope that you will submit payment if you have not done so in the past. Introduce yourself to Greg and help him feel a part of our community. For a listing of participating households, please turn to page 6.

We hope that you will continue to support this service. If you need telephone stickers, please contact the Old Braeswood office at 713-807-1787 or info@oldbraeswood.com.

Help Us Keep the Park Safe and Free of Trash

Several volunteers recently sorted and removed broken and dangerous toys from the Park. The toys that were removed had sharp plastic or metal parts and broken wheels that could be harmful to young children. We hope everyone will agree that the park looks much better without an overwhelming number of faded and broken plastic toys. A dozen or so toys which were in good condition were left behind for the enjoyment of our youngest members. We ask everyone who visits the park regularly to please help by removing any toys that appear damaged or dangerous.

OLD BRAESWOOD ANNUAL MEETING

7 p.m. Tuesday
November 12, 2013

© 2340 Blue Bonnet Blvd.

(@ Morningside)

All neighbors welcome!

Please watch your mail box for official notice and proxy forms.

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In his 1988 book about Old Braeswood, Stephen Fox de-

scribes the house at 2330 North Braeswood as "the largest house yet to be built in Braeswood" and as built "for the mysterious Evalyn Davis."

Mr. Fox dates the house from 1933-1934, but it did not make the Houston City Directory until 1936. Evalyn, misspelled as "Evelyn," is listed alone. Eventually, yardman Robinson Samuel is listed in the garage apartment. In 1940, Evalyn's last year there, she appears as the widow of someone named "Charles Davis."



[Braeswood did not yet cut

through to Kirby. Therefore, the house was listed as being at the south end (1936) or west end (1937-8) of Braeswood, with no street number. One longtime resident remembers that the secluded dead end was used as a Lovers' Lane.

Now for the mystery. Glenlee, Glenn McCarthy's 18 acre estate (built 1937-1938), was on the western boundary of the Davis property. Glenn McCarthy was married to Faustine Lee, whose uncle was Thomas Peter (T. P.) Lee, a founding partner of Yount-Lee Oil Company and its largest shareholder. T. P. Lee is the person of interest.

T.P. went against the common wisdom that the Spindletop oil field was depleted, bought up old leases, and drilled deeper than anyone before him -- with great success. In 1916, T.P. paid the highest price ever paid in Houston for a house (\$90,000) and for that price got the biggest house in town (the 10,500 square foot mansion at 3800 Montrose, now owned by the University of St. Thomas). When he died in 1939, Evalyn Davis contested his will.

Evalyn made a claim for \$100,000 and a one-sixth share in Lee's estate. A 1932 will signed by Lee mentioned a \$100,000 insurance settlement and a one-sixth interest in the estate for "a friend." Evalyn produced a 1933 letter with Lee's signature saying the bequest was hers. However, a revised 1936 will did not include the bequest. County Judge Roy Hofheinz ruled against Evalyn on grounds that the 1936 will revoked all prior wills. (Probate Docket Number 26517) The nature of Evalyn's friendship with T. P. Lee remains a mystery.

In 1941, ownership of 2330 Braeswood Blvd. went to Mrs. Alma M. Carpenter. Alma's husband, Frank H. Carpenter Sr., died shortly after purchasing the house for her and daughter Margaret. It was an accomplished family.

Frank Sr. organized the Sour Lake State Bank in Sour Lake, TX (together with future Texas Governor Ross Sterling). He also was an oil producer in Hardin County. Glenn McCarthy's father-in-law, Bill Lee, organized the Citizens

National Bank in Sour Lake and was a co-founder of

Yount-Lee Oil Company. With both families in banking and oil in the same small community, it may be that the Carpenters knew about the house through the Lees.

While living in Houston, Alma became Secretary of Pfeffer Rice Milling, where daughter Agnes' husband (Milo Maule) was President. Now, a public library back in Sour Lake is named after Alma, possibly because son Frank Jr. served in the Texas legislature 1953-1957.

The Carpenters were followed, in 1945, by Joseph

Danburg. Joseph and family owned Rite-Way Department Stores at six locations. (33 Artesian, 511 Broadway, 1902 Hardy, 7504 Harrisburg, 2756 Lyons, and 5334 Washington)

Another change in ownership, in 1954, brought Joseph F. Meyer Jr. and wife, Alpha. Joseph was Vice-Chairman of the Board of Houston National Bank, 202 Main St. (That building was purchased in 1994 by Hakeem Olajawon and made into Da'wah Center, an Islamic Temple.) Joseph Jr. also was Secretary of Joseph F. Meyer Co. Inc., a family owned company that sold iron, steel, builders supply, automotive parts, and other products. Joseph Jr.'s wife is listed alone in the house in 1962, possibly widowed.

[As an aside, Joseph's father (Joseph F. Meyer, Sr.) bought 6,000 acres in sections, beginning in about 1885, leased it to farmers and cattlemen, and left it to his three sons at his death in 1933. That land eventually became Meyerland.]

The house is vacant in 1963. The next year, E. C. Gibson and wife Oma resided there as caretakers. It appears the house remained vacant for 13 years, with its next owners, Wadi and Laila Suki first appearing in the City Directory in 1977. Dr. Wadi N. Suki was a nephrologist practicing at Methodist Hospital, where he still practices. Laila, his wife, owned Laila Realty, with offices at 2421 W. Holcombe.

The next owner was a Frank R. Gatlin (1988-2003). He was followed by the current owners, Dr. Everton (Tony) Edmondson, a neurologist specializing in pain management, and his wife, Jean.

The house at 2330 North Braeswood has attracted a long line of outstanding residents to Old Braeswood, in part because it was designed by an outstanding architect, Joseph Finger. Many Houston landmarks are Finger creations, including the Lancaster Hotel (1926) and Houston City Hall (1939). [This is the 28th article in a continuing series on houses and people in Old Braeswood. Suggestions for future columns are welcome.]

Park Dog Station Needs Your Help

Respectful dog lovers and those neighbors who appreciate dog owners: the issue is the "Poop Station" outside Old Braeswood Park on Morningside!

We have been pleased that so many dog walkers use this resource resulting in a cleaner neighborhood. The Old Braeswood Garden Club paid for the installation of the Poop Station. And the Garden Club, the Old Braeswood POA and the Old Braeswood Park Corporation pay for the bags. For the past year and a half, a small group of volunteers from the Garden Club have been emptying the container at the dog station each week. Our volunteer group has become smaller and smaller, and our four remaining volunteers need reinforcements. Please consider volunteering to empty the station. If we can recruit several more volunteers, then the job won't be a burden to anyone. To volunteer, or for more information, please contact Dee Murray, dee@artbydeemurray.com.

The job entails lifting the heavy-duty plastic liner out of the station and hauling it to the trash can. Everything is bagged so there is no mess. If we are unable to recruit volunteers, we may have to consider alternatives such as eliminating the container from the station and only providing collection bags. We hope to hear from you with your pledge to help or with your suggestions!

Next Garden Club Meeting set for October 29th

We started off the new season with a

fun, delicious and wonderful evening at Ann and Joe Garnett's home. Our next meeting is Oct. 29th 10:00 a.m. at the home of Dee & Bill Murray at 2402 Maroneal. Neighbor and Realtor, Dawn Gervais, will give a presentation entitled "Old Braeswood Real Estate News and Enhancing the Value of Your

We invite you to join us. For more information, please contact Laurie Eckman at 713-665-1290.

Appreciation for 2013 Park Donors

Old Braeswood Park Corporation thanks the following neighbors for their generosity this year. Thanks to your contributions, we are able to maintain the grass, irrigations system and to make repairs as necessary to our little gem of a park. Donations are accepted throughout the year. Please send checks in any amount payable to OBPC, PO Box 541346, Houston, TX 77254.

Patron (\$150 & up)

Anonymous **Demetrios & Kim Anaipakos** Julie Cohn & John Connor Eileen Brewer & Josheph Corriere Jr. Dr. Dave Kaminsky Randy & Mollie Schaffer

Sustaining (\$100 & up)

Mary & Richard Beaver Nancy Beren Chuck & Jan Bruner Patricia & Ian Butler Biman & Bhagvanti Das **Ted Donnelly** Marina Pannone & Giulio Draetta Annette & John Eldridge Mike & Fran Feltovich Peggy & Marty Fischer Nadia Pervez & Matthew Foster Lisa & Bobby Frederick Dawn & Richard Gervais G.G. Hsieh & Mark Hausknecht Lollie Jackson

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Thanks to our sponsor!

Property".

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- Ballet I (Ages 7-8)

Find all class information at www.pirouettepilatesandbarre.com Cynthia Edmiston 832-781-6125 pilates9@att.net

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Special thank to the following neighbors who so generously support Old Braeswood POA. This list represents dues received through October 15, 2013.

Patron (\$250)

Annette & Arthur Bracey Keiko & Pierre-Yves Masaki Chevray Eileen Brewer & Joseph Corriere Jr. Annette & John Eldridge Jennifer Finch & Henry Fuselier Michael B. Valentine & **Garza Properties** G.G. Hsieh & Mark Hausknecht Edith & Roger Hoffman Christine & Jeff Hollinden Gail & Milton Klein

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Regular (\$100)

Rouhieh Ahmadi & ShiShi Amadi Kim & Demetrios Anaipakos Sheryl & Joel Androphy Ann Schutt-Aine & Rubin S. Bashir Katherine & Don Baur Marian Wilfert Beauchamp & Gary V. Beauchamp Mary & Richard Beaver **Evelyn Berkowitz** Karen & Sam Bernstein Vicki & Robert Birenbaum Beryl & Kenneth Bolton Diana & Steve Brown Courtney & Richard Butler Patricia & Ian Butler Rita Saylors & Thorpe Butler Fran & Tom Callahan Cathlyne Camp-Murray Sharon & John D. Coan, MD Coan Investments, Inc. Lisa & David Cohen Lind Butler & Bill Connolly Farrah Kheradmand & David Corry

Mary Ann & Kent Crowl

Nancy A. & John R. Curry LaVerl & Louis Daily, MD Biman & Bhagvanti Das Kimberly & Mundo de la Fuente **Dorothy Dickey** JoAnne & AndY Doyle Marina Pannone & Giulio Draetta Helen Rose & Albert Ebaugh Marilyn Archer & Jack Eby Laurie & David Eckman Suzanne & Kenny Edwards Sybil & Gary Eknoyan Margo & Peter Elgohary Mary & Greg Erwin Eugenia Georges & Robert H. Etnyre Jr. Peggy & Marty Fischer Nadia Khan Pervez & Matthew Stephen Foster Angela & Nathan Fowler Lisa & Bobby Frederick Jay M. Frost, III Dawn & Richard E. Gervais Latifa & Idris Gharbaoui Milvia Pleitez de Gidley & Paul W. Gidley Ann & Berk Glass Barbara Schachtel Green, PhD & Louis H. Green, MD Janice Gregory Kathy B. & Lee P. Gunner Debbie & Ned Hartline Mary S. Hipp Gayle & Scott Hoffer Lindsey & Sharom Honari Christine & Ernesto Infante

Voting Info

Harriet & Michael Katzeff

Gloria L. Pepper & Bernard Katz

Lollie Jackson

Dr. Dave Kaminsky

Linda Joekel

On November 5th, Old Braeswood will vote at 2347 Underwood from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. Early voting begins October 21st. Visit www.HarrisVotes.com for information about new requirements for acceptable forms of photo ID. You must have a valid ID in order to vote.

WELCOME

New Neighbors

Marina Pannone & Giulio Draetta 2331 Bellefontaine Blvd.

Rhian & Lane McKinney 2349 Bellefontaine

Kirsten Yon 2417 Blue Bonnet Blvd.

Stephanie & Jeffrey Frey 2410 Dorrington, Unit-A

Angela K. & Nathan H. Fowler 2206 Glen Haven Blvd.

> **Shao Yun Zhang** 2424 Gramercy Blvd.

Janet & Paul Sanders 2428 Gramercy Blvd.

Dr. Tina Melicoff-Portillo & Dr. Roberto Adachi 2109 Maroneal Blvd.

By Dawn Gervais, neighbor & Realtor @ Greenwood King

The weather is finally cooling down, but not the real estate market.! As I predicted in my last report, sales have not slowed down a bit despite inventory being at an all time low. In fact, eight homes have sold in our neighborhood since the first of July. With a lack of available homes on the market, many homeowners are choosing to remodel, and new construction activity continues to rise as well. As always in real estate, location and price are big factors in why your home isn't selling. Since you can't change your location, it may be time to reevaluate your selling price.

Old Braeswood Real Estate Statistics: October 2013

Total Number of Homes for Sale	11
Minimum List Price	\$699,999
Maximum List Price	\$2,499,000
Homes currently under contract	3

Total number of Homes sold since July 1	, 2013	8
Minimum Sales Price	47	5,000
Maximum Sales Price	\$1,45	7,000
Average sales price per sq.ft.	\$2	63.75
Average Days on Market		39
1 lot for sale & currently under contract	\$1,45	7,000

^{*} All stats based on properties listed on MLS & HAR.

Recycling & Trash Schedule

Recycling Every other Tuesday

Dates Oct. 8 & 22 Nov. 5 & 19

Dec. 3, 17 & 31 Jan. 14 & 28

Household Trash
Yard Waste

Tuesdays (in city provided bins)
Tuesdays (in biodegradable bags)

Tree Limbs & Debris 3rd Monday (in Odd months)

Junk Waste 3rd Monday (in Even months)

Place your household garbage in the city provided automated bin or recycling containers on the curb no earlier than 6 p.m. the evening preceding pick up and no later than 7 a.m. the day of pick up, and remove it no later than 10 p.m. on collection day. Bins left on the street beyond these times are subject to city fines. Bins must be accessible to the automated collection truck (not blocked by vehicles, trees, etc).

Yard waste must be bagged in city approved biodegradable bags, weighing no more than 50 pounds, and placed at the curb at least 3' away from automated bins. Yard waste mixed with paper, plastic or any other type of waste will not be collected. Small branches may be put in bundles (no more than 4' in length and no more than 18" in diameter).

2013 OBPOA

Officers & Chairpersons

		chan bersons
	President	John Eldridge
	1st Vice Pres.	Susan Teich
	2 nd Vice Pres.	Buddy Steves
	3 rd Vice Pres.	Ryan Maierson
	At-Large	Molly Khalil
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* * * * * *		
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	Block Captains	Sally Miller
	Historic	Susan Teich
	Newsletter	Susan Teich (Interim)
	Park	Annette Eldridge
	Enforcement	Sam Bernstein John Eldridge Bill Marchbank
	Patrol Rep	Ryan Maierson
	Rice U Liaison	Bob Birenbaum
	Social Events	<u>Volunteer Needed</u>

Join Old Braeswood's Yahoo Group

Carroll Shaddock & Molly Khalil

Annette Eldridge

Evalyn Krudy

Kathy Lord

Trees

University Place

Welcome

Manager

This is a real time group where you can send messages to other members without delay. The Yahoo group has been very helpful for tracking down lost pets and has even been used to help the Patrol track down thieves. Please note that the Yahoo group is not related to the eNews and crime alert service. You will need to sign up for those by sending a message to info@oldbraeswood.com.

Visit this link to get started:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ OldBraeswoodNeighbors/



PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 541346 Houston, TX 77254-1346 Phone: 713-807-1787 Email: info@oldbraeswood.com www.oldbraeswood.com

<u>RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED</u>

Thank You, Patrol Subscribers!

Ten months after initiating our new patrol service with SEAL Security Systems, we are happy to report that support from Old Braeswood residents is well above the level of RACS participation. The addresses of households that have contributed to the Patrol this year are listed below. We hope that participation will increase in the coming year as more neighbors recognize the value of this important service. Hopefully, we will be able to expand hours of coverage in the future.

If you have not subscribed, please know that the patrol will come when you call for assistance and will also provide vacation watch service for your home. To request phone stickers or for questions about this service, please contact us at info@oldbrasewood.com or 713-807-1787.

Bellefontaine Blvd.

2302,2317,2324,2328,2331,2333, 2335,2338,2339,2345,2401,2405, 2410,2420,2421,2424,2428,2510, 2511,2518,2519,2522,2525,2529 & 1 anon.

Blue Bonnet Blvd.

2302,2305,2308,2311,2312,2317, 2318,2320,2324,2325,2328,2330, 2334,2335,2337,2340,2345,2349, 2350,2351,2355,2358,2404,2414, 2419,2421,2423,2426,2429,2430, 2505,2511,2517,2523,2526,2532 & 3 anon.

Braeswood Ct.

1,2,4,6

Dorrington Blvd. 2314-A & 4 anon.

Glen Haven Blvd.

2104,2108,2112,2118,2200,2212, 2218,2233,2234,2240,2250,2305, 2308,2309,2310,2314,2318,2319, 2325,2331,2343,2345,2347,2401, 2402,2405,2409,2412,2423,2426, 2430,2436,2503,2507,2510,2514, 2519,2522,2523,2527 & 2 anon.

Gramercy Blvd.

2310,2314,2318,2319,2323,2329, 2401,2402,2410,2418,2419,2428, 2435,2503,2506 & 2 anon.

Greenbriar Dr.

7302,7315

Kelving Dr.

2351,7414,7416

Maroneal Blvd.

2133,2135,2201,2229,2300,2301, 2315,2322,2330,2335,2338,2341, 2348,2401,2402,2409,2417,2418, 2425,2426,2429,2430,2433,2502, 2508,2511,2523,2524,2535 & 2 anon.

Morningside Dr.

7505,7506,7510,7511,7516

N. Braeswood

2350 & 1 anon.

Main Street

7400,7506

Underwood Blvd.

2300,2305,2310,2311,2323,2328, 2329,2330,2333,2334,2338,2340, 2341,2342,2343,2350,2351,2416, 2428,2502 & 3 anon.