

# *Meyerlander* MONTHLY



Volume 4 | Issue 5

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MAY 2016



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# ON THE COVER

The patriotic house that graces the cover of this month's issue is 5307 Yarwell in Section 8 West. Happy Memorial Day!

# MAY

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## 2016 Annual Meeting In Review

*By Shirley Hou*



*Photo: Richard Jucker receiving his award from President Elizabeth Black Berry*

The 2016 Meyerland Annual Meeting was held at Lovett Elementary on March 22. President and Section 6 Director, Elizabeth Black Berry, reflected on the significant events that happened in 2015. Ms. Black Berry stated that the most obvious event that affected Meyerland was the Memorial Day Flood, which impacted a third of the homes. The Association became a critical communication link between various governmental agencies and Meyerland residents. The deed restriction renewal process for sections 7c and 8i was met with some unexpected opposition. This resulted in a slow down of the timeline to update the deed restrictions. On the lighter side, Ms. Black Berry cited with pride the successful Afternoon in the Park event that was held last November, the Board's participation with the Lovett Reading Program and the Board's support for the Neighbors4Neighbors network.

Mike Brubaker, president and CEO, of Brubaker and Associates, a Houston real estate appraisal firm, was the guest speaker. Mr. Brubaker reassured the audience that Meyerland's future was bright. He stated that the current flattening of home values was not just related to the flood but also to normal market corrections and to job declines in the oil and gas industry. He emphasized to flooded homeowners that making the decision to sell, remodel or rebuild was a deeply personal choice. The flood was traumatic to many people, but the enduring attributes of Meyerland - great location, great schools, great community - were not washed away.

Treasurer and Director At-Large, Gerald Radack, spoke about the fiscal strength of the Association. The largest expense items in 2015 were security, landscaping, irrigation and building improvements. He stated that the Association carried no debt and the maintenance fee has not been increased in many years.

Security Chair and Section 8 West Director, Larry Rose, spoke about security and introduced members of Citizens on Patrol, Harris County Precinct 5 and the Houston Police Department. Constable-

Elect Ted Heap reminded members of the audience who have security systems that alarm calls should go first to Precinct 5's phone number 281-463-6666, and then to the homeowner's phone.

The evening concluded with recognition to all the directors and residents who have volunteered throughout the year. Special thanks were given to Lovett Elementary for opening its facilities for the meeting, and to Belden's Supermarket and Brena Moglovkin and Terry Cominsky of Martha Turner Sotheby's for sponsoring the refreshments. The Most Outstanding Director award went to Jim Walters, Section 2 Director, and Paul Connor, Section 8 North Director. The Most Outstanding Meyerland Resident award went to Ed Wolff. Richard Jucker, who is retiring from the Meyerland Architectural Control Committee after more than 25 years of service, received special honors for his commitment to the community. As usual, the annual meeting ended on a light hearted note with some lucky residents receiving raffle prizes for their attendance. The new Board members for the 2016-2017 year were announced and the meeting adjourned.



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## And the Winner is . . .

The 2016 Orange Show Art Car Parade took place on Saturday, April 9. The students at Lovett Elementary School under the guidance of art teacher, Rickey Polidore, submitted their entry entitled "Owl-ways in the Artistic Frame of Mind". This is the third year the school has had an entry in the art car parade. They have won both 2nd and 3rd place for their previous entries. This year the students were honored with First Place in the Best Art Car division.

The art car journey from inception to final masterpiece encompasses most of the school term. Each grade is tasked with various projects suitable for their age and skill set. The journey concludes with help from parents, teachers and volunteers who assemble the car. Mr. Polidore would like to thank "the wonderful and creative students of Lovett Elementary as well as the wonderful and gracious PTO, community members and families who donated frames". He feels honored to work with a supportive faculty and staff who each year come equipped with hammers, drills, smiles and laughter to make it all come together. Polidore is especially "thankful for the Orange Show for supporting Arts in Education and allowing students to participate" in their parade.

Kudos to Lovett Elementary in its group effort to teach and produce art in such a fun and exciting way for its students. Their 1st place trophy is proudly displayed in the trophy case for all to see.



*Top: Lovett Elementary School's art car winners*

*Left: Lovett Elementary's art car won First Place in the Best Art Car division*

*by Joyce Young*

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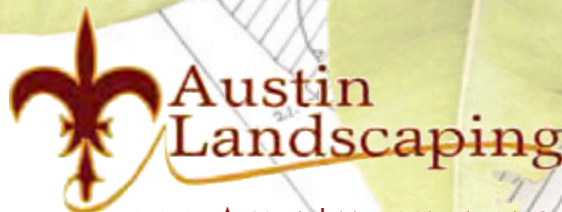
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## Trash/Recycling Schedule

May, 2016						
Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
1	2	3 T/R	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Trash	11 Tree!	12	13	14
15	16	17 T/R	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 Trash	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

June, 2016						
Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
			1 T/R	2	3	4
5	6	7 Trash	8 Junk!	9	10	11
12	13	14 T/R	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 Trash	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 T/R	29	30		

**MCIA Deed Restriction Rules:** Weekly - Put garbage and recycling containers, as well as yard trimmings, etc., on the curb no earlier than 6:00 p.m. the evening before pickup. Remove containers no later than 10 p.m. on trash pickup day. Monthly - Put heavy junk/tree waste at the curb no earlier than Friday 6 p.m. before the 2nd Wednesday heavy junk/tree waste collection.



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## Conclusions from the Memorial Day Flood of 2015

By Gerda Gomez

On March 21, 2016 Jeffrey D. Lindner, Meteorologist and Flood Watch Manager of Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD), spoke at the Brays Bayou Association meeting at The Gathering Place. In a straight-forward, detailed, yet clear manner, he presented the following and final conclusions of the causes of the Memorial Day Flood, as well as comparisons to other floods that impacted our area.

Prior to the Memorial Day Flood, there was a minor dry period in our area followed by heavy rains on April 16-17, 2015 and May 12-13, 2015. These heavy rains saturated the ground with rainfall in April running 300-400% of normal. On May 25, with a major storm present to the west, the key and highly unpredictable question for meteorologists was if the thunderstorms producing flooding over central Texas would make it into Harris County. By 6:45 pm it was evident that the storm of May 25 was heading our way. A line of thunderstorms was approaching from the northwest while additional storms were developing over Matagorda and Fort Bend counties and moving to the northeast. By 9 pm it was clear the two areas of thunderstorms were going to merge over southwest Harris County.

Activation of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at Houston Transtar are rated in levels from 1 (maximum readiness) to 4 (normal conditions). The EOC was activated and moved to Level 3 (interested readiness) at 6:45 pm and by 10:04 pm was moved to Level 2 (high readiness). By 11 pm the storm was Level 1, which was the first time we have had a Level 1 since Hurricane Ike. At 10:52 pm the directive was given to Houstonians not to travel, with the issuance of the first ever Flash Flood Emergency for southwest Harris County. An incredible amount of rain had fallen in the upstream western portion of the Brays Watershed. In a 3 hour period 8 inches had fallen at the West Belt with 6.40 inches falling in two hours. Flood damage, when it occurs, happens in a short period of time, namely 3-6 hours. The Arthur Story Detention and the Eldridge Detention basins, which lie upstream and serve to divert stormwater from entering Brays Bayou, had reached 100% capacity by late evening.

As the rains moved slowly eastward, or down the Brays Bayou watershed, the underground street drainage systems, the street drains

*(Continued on Page 10)*



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(Continued from Page 9)

and tributaries into Brays Bayou were overwhelmed by the slow moving storm that deposited 3-4 inches of rain in one hour. This explains why streets and homes flooded before the water spilled over the banks of the bayou. This occurred in our area at Rice Blvd around 1 a.m. and was the first time this had happened since September 1983. Brays Bayou at Rice Blvd peaked at an elevation of 52.8 ft around 5:30 am on the 26th. This level surpassed previous flood levels on September 19, 1983, October 18, 1994, during Tropical Storm Allison in June 2001, and November 17, 2003.

The topography in Houston and adjacent communities slopes down gradually to Galveston Bay. Therefore, stormwater and the bayous flow generally eastward. Logically flooding should occur in the lowest areas. But flooding may occur anywhere, not necessarily the lowest areas. Why? Because what is most damaging and most likely to cause flooding in an urban area is a large amount of rain in a short period of time.



## Honey Bee Swarms

Honey bees are beneficial by producing honey, wax and pollinating crops. With warmer temperatures, honey bees are becoming more active and may soon begin to swarm.

Honey bee swarms look like a large clump of bees clustered together. The swarm may stay in a location from a few hours to a week. Swarms are produced as a part of the colony's reproductive process. An established colony produces a new queen, causing the old queen and half the worker bees to leave the colony to search for a new nesting location. Swarming honey bees are usually gentle and unlikely to sting. Swarms are not protecting their home, food or offspring. Scout bees are sent out from the swarm to search for a nesting site. Colonies produce comb and honey and are defensive. Bees from a colony are more likely to sting as they are guarding their home, food and offspring.

Sometimes, honey bee colonies can be found in wall voids, chimneys, attics or sheds. If bees are in a wall void, DO NOT block their entrance; this makes them search for another way to exit and could lead bees into the structure. To keep bees from entering a home, seal any holes found in walls where pipes enter the home, cracks in window framing, knotholes, weep holes, or cracks between wood and brick junctures.

While many enjoy having honey bees around, some people are severely allergic to their venom. This, along with other situations, such as bees located near sensitive areas (such as playgrounds) may require removal or even extermination of the bees.

People should NOT try remove or exterminate bees on their own. Beekeepers and pest control companies have equipment to carry out these jobs in a safe manner. The city or county does not provide bee removal services.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600. Check out my blog at [www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com](http://www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com)

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# 6 Health Benefits of Eating Dark Chocolate

If your sweet tooth craves chocolate, there are plenty of reasons to surrender to your cravings and indulge. Dark chocolate is loaded with nutrients that can positively affect your health. Made from the seed of the cocoa tree, it is one of the best sources of antioxidants on the planet. Cacao offers a number of health benefits from helping to control blood sugar to lowering the risk of cardiovascular disease because it contains flavonols, which are a type of antioxidant that has been shown to improve blood flow and can protect against sun-induced damage, improve blood flow to the skin and increase skin density and hydration.

Bottom Line: Quality dark chocolate has various nutritional perks so enjoying a delicious treat that has at least 65% cacao can be guilt-free if you don't overdo it.

## NUTRITIONAL PERKS

### HEART-HEALTHY

Dark chocolate has been shown to improve blood flow and possibly prevent blood clots. It also helps lower blood pressure and may help keep arteries from hardening.

### BRAIN FOOD

Because chocolate increases blood flow to the brain, it can be a boost to your cognitive health.

### MOOD CHANGER

Chocolate also contains phenylethylamine (PEA), which encourages your brain to release endorphins that make you feel good.

### CANCER FIGHTER

Antioxidants in chocolate help rid your system of free radicals, which have been linked to multiple age-related health risks and diseases.

### SOMETHING TO SMILE ABOUT

Theobromine, found in dark chocolate, helps harden tooth enamel, which helps prevent cavities.

### SUN BLOCKER

Some studies show that people with diets high in flavonols take longer to burn in the sun than people with low flavonol diets.

Written by: Claudia Mosley, Moms Making Six Figures

Reviewed by: Dr. Barbara Ryan, MD

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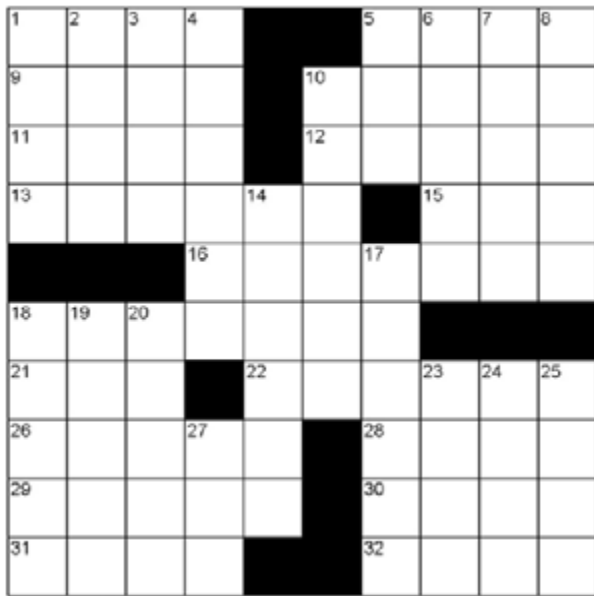
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1. Belong
4. Elevator alternative
10. Fire remains
11. Short guy, hairy feet
12. Manipulate
13. Indoor
14. Coaxing
16. Condensation
17. Adolescent
18. South Carolina (abbr.)
20. New Jersey (abbr.)
22. Hornet
26. Rock
29. Loves
31. Demonstrate
33. Government agency
34. Subordinate
35. Cause of sickness
36. Elapse (2 wds.)
37. Surface to air missile

### DOWN

1. Finds \_ -
2. Make available
3. Not here
4. Tibia
5. Fire iron
6. Abdominal muscles (abbr.)
7. As previously cited
8. Cycle
9. Soup
15. Hotel
19. Cash with order (abr.)
21. Rachel's husband
23. Regions
24. Reddish brown
25. Sacred song
26. Pearls
27. Vile
28. Brief
30. Refuse to believe
32. Pinch

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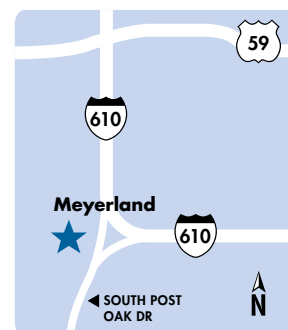
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**\$1.1 M's**

5/4.5

Gorgeous Custom with Master Down  
and Upstairs Gameroom



*Braesvalley*



**\$850's**

4/3.5

Beautiful Home with Designer  
Finishes Features Master Down



**\$480's**

6/4.5

Extensively Remodeled Situated on  
14,000+ Square Foot Lot



**\$670's**

4/2

Architecturally Interesting  
Remodeled Home with Designer  
Finishes



**\$480's**

3/2

Spectacular Updated Home with  
Beautiful Yard and Covered Patio

### OUR MEYERLAND TEAM:

MARIE CAPLAN • SHELLEY GREEN • BOB READER • MURIEL MENDELL • SETH CAPLAN • CINDY COOK  
LINDA RICCA • JERRY ROZEN • JULIE FISCHER • KRISTEN FLAVIN



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