

# *Meyerlander* MONTHLY

Official Publication of the  
Meyerland Community Improvement Association



Volume 6 | Issue 4

MEYERLAND.NET

APRIL 2018



*We're digging Meyerland!*



## FEATURED PROPERTIES



### MEYERLAND

Glenmeadow Drive | \$319,000  
5/3.5 | ±3,739 sf  
MLS 20987784



### MEYERLAND

Loch Lomond Drive | \$309,500  
4/2.5 | ±2,693 sf  
MLS 60209083



### MEYERLAND

Glenmeadow Drive | \$349,000  
5-6/4.5 | ±4,239 sf  
MLS 18823122



### MEYERLAND

Queensloch Drive | \$349,000  
4/3.5 | ±3,116 sf  
MLS 38605157



### MEYERLAND

Caversham Drive | \$398,000  
5-6/3.5+ | ±3,972 sf  
MLS 66022739

### MEYERLAND

Moonlight Drive | \$1,149,000  
4/4.5 | ±4,832 sf  
MLS 44074557



## PENDING PROPERTIES



### MEYERLAND

Manhattan Drive | \$349,000  
4/2.5 | MLS 68861457



### MEYERLAND

Ferris Drive | \$339,000  
3/2 | MLS 37512381



### MEYERLAND

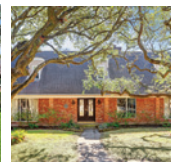
Moonlight Drive | \$335,000  
5/3.5 | MLS 46799907

## SOLD PROPERTIES



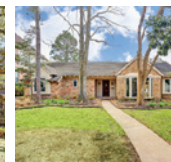
### MEYERLAND

Cheena Drive  
Last list price \$275,000



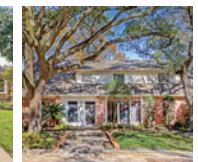
### MEYERLAND

Queensloch Drive  
Last list price \$348,500



### MEYERLAND

Loch Lomond  
Last list price \$325,000



### MEYERLAND

Loch Lomond  
Last list price \$337,000

Contact us with all your real estate needs.



**Terry Cominsky**  
REALTOR-ASSOCIATE®

713.558.3331  
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Friday ..... 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Central Time  
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Telephone ..... 713-729-2167  
Fax ..... 713-729-0048  
General Email ..... office@meyerland.net  
Architectural Control ..... randi@meyerland.net  
Community Assistance ..... catherine@meyerland.net  
*4999 West Bellfort St., Houston, TX 77035*

Visit our website at [www.meyerland.net](http://www.meyerland.net)

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## Letter from the Editor

Dear Meyerlanders,

This edition of the Meyerlander Monthly marks a transition period. I would like to personally thank Shirley Hou, former editor of the Meyerlander Monthly, who selflessly worked to put out each month's edition. The March issue of Meyerlander Monthly was Shirley's last edition as editor as she is taking some well-deserved time off to restore and regain some semblance of normalcy in her post-Harvey life.

It was only befitting that Shirley's last issue was her 60th issue as she birthed and reared her "baby" (the Meyerlander Monthly) for the past five years. Shirley has left big shoes to fill and I am stepping in as editor in the interim until Meyerland settles down a bit and develops into its new "normal". Harvey came to town, wreaked havoc and left Meyerland crippled and hurting. It seems no one was left unscathed.

I will do my best to uphold the standards Shirley set for this neighborhood publication. I hope all of you continue to read and enjoy the monthly issues that are produced and accomplished on pure volunteerism. If you have suggestions or would like to contribute articles, please submit them to [meyerlander@meyerland.net](mailto:meyerlander@meyerland.net). We are all on this adventure of restoring and rebuilding our little neighborhood inside the Big City. I look forward to watching us grow and develop.

Happy Reading!  
Joyce

## PROJECT BRAYS IS HERE!

*By Charles Goforth*

If you have wondered what all the activity going on inside the Brays Bayou channel in the Meyerland area is, it's Project Brays.

**THE CHANNEL:** The current work involves widening the bayou under 610 by replacing the sloped earthen banks with vertical concrete walls. Also the banks between 610 and S. Rice are being "shaved" back, about 40 feet on the south bank and 10 feet on the north bank. These combined modifications will increase downstream flow by 30% and we should realize the full benefit by the end of summer. In late 2018 the bayou widening will begin on the segment between S. Rice and Fondren and is forecasted to be completed by fall 2019. The widening will follow the general pattern of 40 feet on the south and 10 feet on the north.

**BRIDGES:** The S. Rice and Chimney Rock bridges will be demolished and replaced with new construction. Hillcroft will be elevated only, not rebuilt new...sounds fitting considering the same could be said about many of our homes. The schedule of the bridge work has not been solidified, but it will have to be done in phases. The work on each bridge is expected to take 14 plus months. Actually there are two bridges at each of the S. Rice and

*(Continued on Page 6)*



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**Wendy Bernstein**

713.927.7743

wbernstein@BernsteinRealty.com



**Melinda Gordon**

713.256.9145

mgordon@BernsteinRealty.com



**Leora Kahn**

713.826.9109

lkahn@BernsteinRealty.com



**Scott Minchen**

713.213.6829

sminchen@BernsteinRealty.com



**Elise Niefeld**

713.298.1623

eniefeld@BernsteinRealty.com



**Sondra Rosenthal**

713.870.3790

srosenthal@BernsteinRealty.com



**Mindy Tribolet**

713.502.5915

mtribolet@BernsteinRealty.com



**Lisa Yambra**

713.870.8530

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(Continued from Page 4)

Chimney Rock crossings, one north and one southbound. The plans are to shift north AND southbound traffic to one bridge while the other is being constructed. The hope is to be able to keep one of the two bridges open most of the time during construction, but there will be occasions when both the north and south bridges will be closed. Although it will be inconvenient, there will never be a time when you cannot cross at S. Rice or Chimney Rock. Late 2021 has been mentioned as the bridge work completion date. The bridge designs will be of a more "modern" flair, but nothing real artsy and will have 8-10 foot wide pedestrian crossing walks instead of the current 3-foot sidewalks on the bridges.

**TRAILS:** The "new" Brays Bayou Hike and Bike trail system in our area will be much more user friendly and safer. The Houston Parks Board is proposing a north AND southside trail from Greenwillow to Hillcroft. The trails will be a minimum of 10 feet wide with the width increasing to 15 feet in some areas and sturdily constructed out of concrete and rebar. The trail on the northside will be "top of bank," as it is now and moved 10 feet closer to the street due to the bayou widening. The southside trail will run along the lower shelf (above where the concrete slope begins) and also on top of bank in many places. The southside trail will have underpasses at every bridge in our

area, eliminating the need to "interact" with vehicular traffic at intersections. Another feature of the southside trail is that once it crosses under 610 on its way to the Medical Center, it will pass by the Meyer Tract Detention Basin (aka...Lake Meyerland) just inside the Loop. Right now the area, for the most part, is inaccessible to foot and bike traffic, but it is a gem of a place to check out nature. With some park type upgrades it will become an exciting destination for those out exercising or recreating.

## WAIVER EXTENSIONS

In order to ease the burdens already imposed on Meyerland residents, the MCIA Board of Directors voted on March 12, 2018, to extend the following waivers until December 31, 2018:

- Waiver of Application/Construction Fees
- Waiver of time limit on Moving/Storage containers and motorhomes/travel trailers.

If you have any questions, please contact the MCIA office at Meyerland.net.

## LIVE A LIFE WITHOUT JOINT PAIN



### We can help you get there.

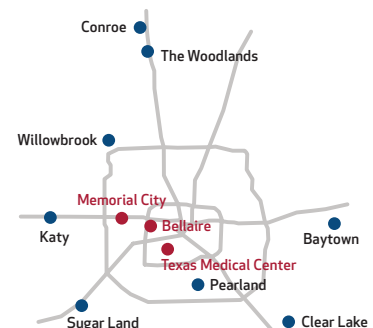
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After



Before



After

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## Open Letter from MCIA Office

Dear Meyerland Residents,  
It's spring! Here are a few quick reminders:

### Yard Maintenance

• **Yard Work-** It is time again to get your yard work done on a regular basis. Weekly lawn maintenance may be necessary to keep your lawn looking manicured.

• **Leaves-** Please collect and remove all leaves that have fallen on and in front of your property. The piles of leaves in the street are clogging up the streets' drainage system causing drainage to be delayed or blocked. If water is unable to flow into the inlets, it may stand in or possibly flood the street.

• **Yard clippings-** Yard clippings may not be left at the curb and must be kept out of sight until 6pm on the evening before a trash collection day. If your clippings are not collected by the city on collection day, you must call 311 and report it.

• **Trash, debris and glass on sidewalks-** Please have your sidewalks and lawns swept and/or raked. The sidewalks need to be clear of trash, debris, AND GLASS that is remaining after the storm debris has been picked up by the City. It has become hazardous for many homeowners to walk on the sidewalks due to the uncollected debris.

### Trash, Recycling and Storm Debris

• **Black Trash Bags-** Do not use black trash bags for lawn waste. The city will not pick them up. Please use only the City's approved recyclable bags. Furthermore, the current contractors picking up storm debris will not pick up bagged debris.

• **Trash Receptacles-** All trash & recycling receptacles must remain hidden from view until 6pm on the evening before a trash or recycling collection day. Please do not store your trash and recycling bins on your driveway or on your front porch, etc.

• **Tree and Heavy Trash Collection-** The Solid Waste Department has resumed its regularly scheduled tree waste and junk waste collections effective March 1, 2018. Please refer to the Trash/Recycling schedule that is included in this Meyerlander issue for the April and May collection dates.

• **Construction Debris and Dumpsters-** Construction materials will not be picked up by the City of Houston. Please place your construction debris in an approved dumpster, or remove the debris as it is generated. Please remember that your dumpster may not be placed in the street or block the public sidewalk.

• **Storm Debris-** The Solid Waste Department has suspended the city crews collecting Hurricane Harvey storm debris. Report uncollected storm debris to the City of Houston 3-1-1 service line. For more information, please visit [www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste](http://www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste).

Yours for a better Meyerland,  
Catherine Martin, CMCA  
Resident Relations & Communications Specialist  
[Catherine@meyerland.net](mailto:Catherine@meyerland.net)  
(713) 729-2167

## New Deed Restriction Update

*By Bill Goforth*

Thanks to the hard work of many Meyerland Lot Owners, steady progress is being made in getting the requisite number of signatures required for the passage of new deed restrictions. As of mid-March, Meyerland Sections 6A, 8B and 8F have received the requisite number of signatures and the new deed restrictions have been filed with the county and are now in effect. Section 6's new deed restrictions are with the attorney for review and will be filed with the county shortly. Meyerland Sections 3, 4, 5, 6B, 8E and 8G deed restrictions are out for signatures. Since many lot owners have been displaced and are not currently residing in their Meyerland homes, the requisite number of signatures has not yet been attained. If you are able to locate your neighbors and obtain their signatures, the deed restrictions will pass more quickly.

Special thanks to all lot owners who took it upon themselves to contact the MCIA office to volunteer walking door-to-door, holding events at the park, and in some cases, opening their homes to host signature parties.

If your Section is not listed above, please know that the Deed Restriction Renewal Committee (DRRC) is hard at work preparing the next and final set of Deed Restrictions and readying them for your Section's comments and approval. The new sets of deed restrictions will allow design flexibility similar to the sets of deed restrictions that have already passed. Please visit [Meyerland.net](http://Meyerland.net) for deed restriction updates.



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## Trash/Recycling Schedule

April, 2018						
Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
1	2	3 T/R	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Trash	11 Junk!	12	13	14
15	16	17 T/R	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 Trash	25	26	27	28
29	30					

May, 2018						
Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
		1 T/R	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 Trash	9 Tree!	10	11	12
13	14	15 T/R	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 Trash	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30 T/R	31		

**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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## Tearing your House Down?

Now that the decision to tear down your house has been made, one important thing you need to do before starting the tear down is to complete a "Demolition Application" form and turn it into the MCIA Office. You can find the form on the MCIA Website, [meyerland.net](http://meyerland.net) > General Information > Home Improvement Information > Home Improvement Applications.

## UPDATED CONTACT INFORMATION

Since many homeowners are currently repairing and rebuilding their Meyerland homes and are not presently residing in Meyerland, it is important that MCIA has current information on each resident. Please fill out the "Update My Contact Information" worksheet at [Meyerland.net](http://Meyerland.net).

If you are currently forwarding your mail with USPS, please verify that it is still current. Mail is being returned to the MCIA office because the forwarding period has expired. Please visit [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com) to re-enroll your forwarding mail information.

## DEAR LABBY By Labrigail Van Bird Dog



**Dear Labby:** I recently adopted a cute little, multi-colored Basset Hound from a local shelter. I fell in love with her as soon as I set eyes on her. She is a wonderful companion but when we go for rides in the car, and I start singing along with the radio, she starts howling. And she only does it when I sing Country Western songs. It's kind of embarrassing when we pull up to the drive through window at Starbucks and she's singing along with me. People turn their heads around and stare at us. What do you think about this? Is this okay? Or is there a way to put a stop to the classic hound howl when she raises her head to the sky and lets loose? Please help me Labby.

### Singing At Starbucks

**Dear Singing At Starbucks:** It sounds like you might just be worried that your hound may have a better voice than you. There's nothing wrong with a good singing partner and maybe you both can go on one of those talent shows. I recommend you embrace the singing duo concept. Or just change the channel to some Frank Sinatra or Dean Martin music. But I'd wager your crooner will love that too. And maybe try Dunkin' Donuts?

If you have pet questions for Dear Labby (not just for dogs), please email them to: [meyerlander@meyerland.net](mailto:meyerlander@meyerland.net).

## Hurricane Harvey Federal Tax Deduction For Flooded Homes

### If you or your clients flooded from Hurricane Harvey:

- They may qualify for a significant casualty loss tax deduction (regardless of flood insurance coverage) by having a real estate casualty loss appraisal performed.
- Tax deductions typically range from 10% to 30% of the property value prior to Hurricane Harvey.
- Tax deductions can be applied to their 2017 income tax return and carried forward for up to 20 years.
- Deductions may apply even if flooding was minor (i.e. garage or crawl space).
- The appraisal will be completed by a licensed real estate appraiser with over ten years of experience in casualty loss valuations.



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## 2018 ART CAR PARADE

*By Joyce Young*

This year **HISD** will be represented by an unprecedented 21 works of Art in the Largest Art Car Parade in the World! The Houston Art Car Parade will be held April 14, 2018 along Allen Parkway. The Orange Show Center for Visionary Art will host a plethora of events the week of the parade in which many of the Art Cars can be viewed. The artistic efforts made by students, teachers, campuses and their communities is evident in how the Art Car process engages and fosters student achievement, builds the campus community, and incorporates both foundation and core enrichment instruction.

The 2018 Art Car Parade will include entries from Herod Elementary, Lovett Elementary and Meyerland Performing and Visual Arts Middle School. This year's highlights include partnerships between the campuses' Visual Arts Programs and Career and Technology Education (CATE) Programs. In addition, the public donated multiple vehicles, as well as old Art Cars gifted by the Art Car Community. Several parent groups were instrumentally involved with their pioneering efforts to help the students build their art cars. This year's entries included combining Elementary and High School programs to build a car, as well as

a first year teacher building her first Art Car with her elementary art students. The Defending Mayor's Cup Winners, Heights High School, are readying their entry to defend their championship.

This year marks the 31st Annual Art Car Parade and promises to be an exciting parade with 21 entries from the local schools including three entries from our Meyerland area schools.

## WILLOW WATERHOLE MUSIC FEST 2018

The sixth edition of the Willow Waterhole Music Fest will be held on April 21-22 and will feature 20 hours of free diverse music provided by 16 Pro Bands and 7 Student-School Bands. A new, dynamic Artist Village with over 40 participating artists will also be featured. Bring your favorite chair or blanket and join in the two fun-filled days of music and entertainment at the naturally beautiful 290-acre Willow Waterhole Greenway.



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# TOTALLY AWESOME!

By Cheryl Conley, TWRC Wildlife Center

So, what am I referring to? I'm referring to the totally awesome opossum! Now some of you will disagree with me but let me tell you about the opossum and then see if you agree with me.

The first thing you should know is that the opossum is a hero in the fight against ticks. According to the National Wildlife Federation, an opossum can eat up to 4,000 ticks in one week helping to slow down the spread of Lyme disease. In addition to ticks, they eat cockroaches, rats, mice, snails and slugs—actually, they eat almost anything, keeping our environment free of all the nasty things we don't like. Snakes? Yep. Opossums are immune to the venom of poisonous snakes.

Is rabies a concern of yours? Not to worry. Although any mammal can be a carrier of rabies, the chance of opossums being a carrier are very rare. The body temperature of the opossum is very low making it almost impossible for the virus to survive.

Dinosaurs roamed our earth 70 million years ago. Guess who roamed it with them? Opossums. Any animal that can survive for that long deserves my respect.

"Playing 'possum" is a real thing but opossums don't have any control over it. When frightened, some become paralyzed with fear. They drop, their lips draw back exposing their teeth and their anal glands secrete a bad smelling liquid which deters predators. They will recover in one to four hours. Some scientists believe that "playing 'possum" evolved as a defense mechanism because opossums move so slowly and can't outrun predators.

(Continued on Page 14)



Willow Waterhole 2018 MUSICFEST

blues • jazz • latin • rock • r&b • country & western • big band • cuban

Saturday & Sunday

April 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>  
11am-9pm • 11am-8pm

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The opossum is the only marsupial in North America. Females can give birth to up to 25 babies after a short gestation period of 11 to 13 days. The babies are so small that 20 of them could fit into a teaspoon. The babies make their way to mama's pouch where only 13 teats are available. Obviously, not all the babies survive for this reason. The lucky ones latch onto the teat and stay attached for up to 3 months. They climb out and cling to their mother's back for up to 2 weeks when they "fall" off. They are then on their own.

The opossum has 50 teeth—more than any other North American land mammal. The hairless tail is used for balance, grasping branches and carrying nesting materials but is not used to hang upside down. This is a common misconception. They also have opposable thumbs on their hind feet used for holding onto branches.

Are you now convinced that opossums are totally awesome? Even if you're not, we encourage you to "live and let live." They serve a purpose and deserve a place in our world.

If you find a dead opossum with babies in the pouch, please don't remove them. Although difficult, we ask that you place the expired mom in a box and bring her to us. We will carefully remove the babies and care for them until they can be safely released back to the wild.

TWRC Wildlife Center can help you with all of your wildlife concerns. Answers to many of your questions can be found on our website at [www.twrcwildlifecenter.org](http://www.twrcwildlifecenter.org). If you can't find the information you need, please call us at 713-468-TWRC.

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