

Council Member Dave Martin's District E Newsletter

Issue 5

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Dave Martin
Council Member
District E

Contact:

900 Bagby
First Floor
Houston, TX 77002

17629 El Camino Real
Suite 415
Houston, TX 77058

Office: (832) 393-3008
Fax: (832) 393-3279

districte@houstontx.gov

Allie Smart

Chief of Staff

Lauren Doak

Director of
Special Projects

Kevin Zuniga

Constituent Services
Liaison

City Contacts

Residents of District E,

It's hard to believe that the last four months have come and gone. Last month, the District E office in conjunction with the city's Department of Neighborhoods celebrated Earth Day with tree planting ceremonies" at schools located throughout the District. Deerwood Elementary, Genoa Elementary and Westbrook Intermediate all received new trees. I would like to say a big thank you to the Department of Neighborhoods, specifically to the department's director, Katye Tipton as well as Andrea Jackson and Landon Taylor for working closely with my office to ensure District E schools received trees.

Speaking of school, the end of the spring semester is quickly approaching. As a former school board trustee, the end of the school year always brings a sense of accomplishment. Whether you are a student, teacher, parent, grandparent or community member, I hope you all can reflect back on the last 10 months and feel that you have accomplished something. Thanks to all of the hardworking school administrators and teachers for the tremendous amount of dedication you show to not only the students but to the community each year.

To the graduating class of 2013, I congratulate you on your many achievements. I wish you all the best and look forward to seeing what great things you accomplish in your future. I would like to say special congratulations to my graduate and son, David Martin. He is graduating at the end of the month from the University of Texas-Austin with a degree in Biomedical Engineering and will be attending Baylor College of Medicine in Houston beginning in July. Julie and I are very proud of David and his accomplishments. My middle son Michael is finishing up his sophomore year at the University of Texas-Austin where he is majoring in Petroleum Engineering, and Jennifer will be a senior at Kingwood High School in the fall. Time really does fly and we are so blessed to have three wonderful children.

Thanks to all of you for subscribing and reading my monthly newsletter. My office works hard to make sure the residents of District E stay informed of the most current city and community news and events. If you ever have suggestions for the newsletter, feel free to send your ideas to DistrictE@houstontx.gov.

I hope you all have a blessed May and a safe summer break.

Sincerely,

Dave Martin

Kingwood Super Neighborhood Meeting

City of Houston 311
(713) 837-0311

Mayor's Citizens
Assistance Office
(832) 393-0955

Kingwood
Community Center
(281) 348-2570

City of Houston Solid Waste Management

City of Houston
Public Works
Department

Department of
Neighborhoods

The Kingwood Super Neighborhood Council held their monthly meeting last month at the Kingwood Community Center. As the featured guest speaker, Council Member Martin addressed the 14 members about the proposed senior housing development, known as Main Street Kingwood, that had applied for housing credits through the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs. As part of the application process, the developer was required to get community and local elected official support. Council Member Martin looked at relevant data provided by the developer and listened to the wealth of constituent feedback, especially from those living in the nearby vicinity of where the development would be built. As a result, Council Member Martin and the rest of city council voted against the development during a city council meeting on Wednesday, March 27.



Kingwood BOPA Results

District E Community Contacts

Lake Houston Area
Chamber of Commerce

Kingwood Chamber of
Commerce

Clear Lake Area
Chamber of Commerce

Southbelt-Ellington
Chamber of Commerce

Bay Area Houston
Economic Partnership

Kingwood Service
Association

Kingwood Super
Neighborhood Council

South Belt-Ellington
Super Neighborhood
Council

The final results from the Batteries Oil Paint and Antifreeze (BOPA) event held in March at the Metro Park and Ride in Kingwood have been totaled. A total of 577 cars at an average of 56 pounds per car were serviced equaling a total 32,389 pounds of recyclable waste gathered. Council Member Martin thanks the Solid Waste Management Department for the work that they contributed to make for another successful collection event.



Earth Week Tree Planting Ceremonies

In commemoration of Earth Week 2013, Council Member Martin joined forces with the city's Department of Neighborhoods to coordinate the first annual tree planting ceremony in District E. Deerwood Elementary (Humble ISD), Genoa Elementary (Pasadena ISD) and Westbrook Intermediate (Clear Creek ISD) all participated to gain an understanding of service-learning and the environmental impact Earth Day has on the surrounding community.



This is the first year the city's Department of Neighborhoods has chosen to recognize Earth Day by planting trees at local schools. Bald Cypress trees

Clear Lake Super Neighborhood

were donated by Keep Houston Beautiful through a grant from the Apache Foundation while additional supplies were provided by Department of Neighborhoods through grant funds received by Home Depot.

Council Member Martin thanks the Department of Neighborhoods as well as each of the individual school districts for participating and coordinating with his office in this first annual event.



Dancing for Partners

For the fifth consecutive year, the Lake Houston YMCA hosted their Dancing for Partners event benefiting families at both the Lake Houston and East Montgomery County YMCA organizations. Council Member Martin helped kick off the night by giving the opening invocation. Afterwards, community leaders from across the Lake Houston area attended to watch their colleagues, neighbors and friends dance the night away during a friendly competition on the dance floor.



Council Member Martin thanks Carol Sutton with the Lake Houston YMCA for inviting him to participate in this successful community event.

Frey Road Improvements

During the District E Capital Improvement Project meeting held in March in Clear Lake, feedback was received concerning the condition of Frey Road located in southeast Houston. Following the meeting, Council Member Martin's office received several telephone calls and emails about the disrepair of the roadway. Since then, the District E office has worked with Public Works and Engineering who has investigated the issues to find an effective solution to mitigate the road condition. As a result, the road was overlaid from Edgebrook to Hartsook on April 26.

Council Member Martin thanks the community for publicly commenting and contacting his office about the needed repairs. He also thanks Director Krueger with the Public Works Department for the attention given to the concerns of District E.

Redford Apartments Networking Event

On April 3, the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce celebrated the opening of the newly renovated Redford Apartments located at 1221 Redford Street. Nearly \$10 million worth of renovations was invested in the apartment complex following



the damages of Hurricane Ike. Renovations include updated apartment units, a playground, eight laundry rooms, three sparkling saltwater swimming pools, WIFI access and a new fitness center. Council Member Martin's Director of Special Projects, Lauren Doak, attended the networking event and presented Redford Apartment's manager, Tammy Rodriguez, with a certificate of special recognition for the work that has been done and for her outstanding management of the property.



Arlington Heights Community Association Meeting

Council Member Martin's Director of Special Projects, Lauren Doak, spoke at the Arlington Heights Community Association on April 9. Ms. Doak spoke to residents about resources available to them from the city, hurricane preparedness, and projects occurring within the southeast and southern portion of District E. Council Member Martin appreciates the invitation from the association's president, Barbara Stubblefield and for allowing a representative from his office to address the residents of the Arlington Heights neighborhood. As constituent service is of the utmost priority, the council member encourages all residents to contact his office should they have any questions, comments or concerns.

Freeway Manor Civic Club Meeting

Council Member Dave Martin spoke to the residents of the Freeway Manor Civic Club on April 25 addressing district related concerns and projects. Topics included the overlaying of Frey Road, the South Shaver Road rebuild project, Freeway Manor Park and exciting developments in and around Ellington Airport and NASA/JSC.



Additionally, residents had the opportunity to have their questions answered during an open Q&A portion of the meeting. Council Member Martin appreciates the opportunity to have met with the Freeway Manor residents and thanks Civic Club president, Nick Crnkovic, for giving him the chance to speak.

Space Center Rotary Speaking Engagement

Council Member Martin was the featured guest speaker at the Space Center Rotary Club's weekly meeting on April 8. The group of Rotarians listened to District E updates, city wide news and had the opportunity to ask





Council Member Martin a variety of different questions. Council Member Martin thanks program chairman, John Swartwout, for the invitation to speak.

University of Houston - Clear Lake's Cyber Security Forum

The University of Houston - Clear Lake recently opened their first Cyber Security Institute. As such, the Institute held their first annual Cyber Security Collaboration Forum at NASA's Gilruth Center to discuss all things related to security threats in the cyber market.



As a representative from the City of Houston, Council Member Martin was asked to speak and gave welcoming remarks regarding the importance of educating companies and employees about cyber security and the potential affects there could be if that security was breached.

Council Member Martin thanks BAHEP President, Bob Mitchell; BayTech President Kim Morris; UHCL Dean of the School of Science & Computer Engineering, Dr. Zbigniew J. Czajkiewicz; and UHCL Executive Director of the Cyber Security Institute, Dr. Andrew Yang.

Celebration of the International Space Station

Space Center Houston hosted dozens from the community on April 11 to view an educational presentation of their newest "Living in Space" exhibit, which celebrates the International Space Station. The exhibit highlights the technologies and innovative research that results from the work being done on board and the affects it has on human's everyday lives back on Earth. It is a fantastic display that showcases the phenomenal talent on board and simulates how astroanuts live day-to-day. For more information, pleas visit spacecenter.org.



Pictured on the right: Richard Allen, Space Center Houston President; Dr. Ellen Ochoa, Director of NASA Johnson Space Center; Houston City Council Member Dave Martin

Fire Safety Day

On April 12, Council Member Martin joined Houston Fire Department

Station 72 during the annual "Fire Safety Day" at the Freeman Library in Clear Lake. The B shift team gave children the opportunity to learn more about fire safety, the tools used on the apparatus and what it is like to be a firefighter. Nearly 150 children and adults attended the annual event. Council Member Martin thanks Captain Matthew Faulkner and the entire B Shift for their continued involvement in the community and for their dedication as a first responder.

State of the City

Mayor Annise Parker gave her annual State of the City Address on April 26 at the Hilton Americas in downtown Houston. Elected officials and community leaders from all across the city attended to hear more about the challenges and initiatives facing Houston in the year ahead. Following the event, Council Member Martin interviewed with HTV guest anchor, Darian Ward, in response to what was presented during the Mayor's speech.

Council Member Martin thanks the Houston Apartment Association for inviting him to be a guest at their table this year.

United Airlines' Terminal Sneak Preview

On Monday, April 15 United Airlines unveiled their new Terminal B South Concourse at George Bush Intercontinental Airport and gave community leaders the opportunity to get a sneak preview before opening it to the public. The new terminal consists of 30 new gates that will be used primarily for United Express jet flights and will be available for nearly 300 flights per day. It will also have



17 new restaurants and retail establishments including one owned by local Houston chef, Bryan Caswell. The new terminal is a great addition to the George Bush Intercontinental Airport and will accommodate the growing traveling population that uses Houston as a final destination or connecting city.

Comcast Newsmakers Segment

Last month, Council Member Martin was interviewed on Comcast Newsmakers, a local news program that features local, state and federal officials in addition to community leaders that address current events and share their positions on particular issues affecting local residents.



Council Member Martin spoke on his first 90 days in office, the financial state of the city as well as projects related to District E. To listen to Council Member Martin's interview, check your local Comcast listings.

Mayor's Earth Day Breakfast

Community leaders, elected officials and companies from around the Houston area attended the Third Annual Earth Day Breakfast on April 10 hosted by Mayor Annise Parker. Council Member Martin and his Director of Special Projects, Lauren Doak, were invited to attend and sit with Collette Vallott with TXU. Those who joined them at their table included Council Member Larry Green; Bob Mitchell, president of the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership; Jorge Mancilla, Executive Vice President of the Houston Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and Anna Megan Raley Digital Content Manager with CBS Radio.



Juvenile Curfew Ordinance

The 2013 Juvenile Curfew Ordinance was passed by the Houston City Council last month. The ordinance, which was originally enacted by City Council in 1991, makes it unlawful for a minor (ages 10-16) to knowingly "remain, walk, run, stand, drive or ride about, in or upon any public place in the city during curfew hours." Additionally, it makes it unlawful for a parent or guardian to willingly allow violation of the curfew. Any violation can be met with no more than a \$500.00 fine.

There are several exceptions to the ordinance including the instances of a minor being accompanied by a parent or guardian, in case of an emergency, a minor attending school, religious or government sponsored activities, among others. For more information, please visit www.houstontx.gov/police/juvenile.

Texas Police Games Need You!

This summer the Texas Police Athletic Federation will bring their Texas Police Association Games to Bay Area Houston. This annual event will bring police officers from around Texas and across the nation to participate in a variety of competitive events. At this time, the association is in need of additional volunteers for several different shifts during the event, which will run June 10-14. If you are interested in volunteering your time, please contact Annie Spriggins at (800) 624.9752 or visit their website at www.texaspolicegames.org.



Preparing for Summer Travel

As many prepare for vacation this summer, Officer Richard Buitron with the Houston Police Department's Clear Lake Substation encourages you to take several steps to protect your home before heading out of town.

- Notify local law enforcement on your departure and return dates.
- Provide the name and telephone number of a neighbor or relative to notify in the event of an emergency.
- Place a "vacation hold" on newspaper subscriptions, mail delivery or ask a neighbor to pick up newspapers and mail during the vacation period.
- Place interior lights and radio on timers to give the appearance that the home is occupied.
- Notify neighbors of your absence and encourage them to contact the police regarding any suspicious activity at your home.
- Make sure all entry points into the home are secure.
- If you have an alarm system, leave a current list of contacts with the alarm company in case of the system activations.
- Disconnect the electric garage door opener and lock the garage door.
- Arrange for someone to mow your lawn, rake leaves and maintain the yard to give the home a lived-in look.
- Test your smoke and burglar alarms.
- Leave shades and blinds in a normal position.

For more information or if you should have questions, please contact Council Member Martin's office or your local Houston Police Department substation. www.houstontx.gov/police/contact/substations.html

Swimming Pool and Water Safety

Last year in the greater Houston area, 24 children drowned. This year, at least three children have perished to this preventable tragedy. The Houston Fire Department (HFD) offers the following safety tips to help make water fun a happy memory and not a tragic one.



Parents

- NEVER leave a child alone near water and always watch your children around swimming pools
- Use approved flotation devices
- If your apartment has a pool, inspect the fence and gate. If the gate does not lock or you find any other defects with the fence, report it to the apartment management immediately
- Bring a cell phone to the pool in case of emergency
- Make sure there is no standing water on the pool deck. Standing water is the #1 cause of slips and falls around a pool. NO RUNNING on the pool deck!
- Enroll children over the age of three in swimming lessons taught by qualified instructors and REMEMBER swimming lessons do not make your child drown-proof!
- Always have a first-aid kit and emergency contacts handy

- Watch for dangerous "TOOs" - too tired, too cold, too far from safety, too much sun, too much strenuous activity
- Pay attention to local weather conditions and forecasts. If lightning and thunder are nearby, get out until the storm has passed

Teach Your Children these Safety Tips

- Always swim with a buddy
- Don't dive into unknown bodies of water. Jump in feet first to avoid hitting your head on the shallow bottom
- Don't push or jump on others in or around water and obey all rules and posted signs
- Swim in supervised areas only

For more information about HFD, visit www.houstontx.gov/fire.

Garbage Collection Tips

To ensure District E resident's have their trash picked up on a weekly basis, Council Member Martin suggests meeting the trash placement requirements set forth by the city's Solid Waste Management Department. All garbage must be placed inside the city-provided container. The container should be placed at the curb between 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. on the scheduled collection day with the handle of the container facing towards one's house. The container should be accessible at all times, and cannot be blocked by any obstacles such as trees, parked cars, mailboxes, basketball hoops and poles, holiday arches and power lines. In order to prevent the chances of being ticketed, residents must remove the containers from the curblane by 10:00 p.m. on the day of collection and stored in a secure location.



For more information and tips on how to bag your garbage, please visit the [Solid Waste Management's website](#).

Upcoming Events

Please refer to Council Martin's District E [website](#) for location, time and more event details. Email the District E office if you would like us to include your upcoming event in future newsletters!



City Wides

May 2

HPD Cadet Graduation Class 215

*May 4
Annual Downtown Cinco de Mayo Parade*

*May 11
Lone Star College System's Bond Referendum*

*May 11
School Board Election Day*

*May 26 - June 1
Hurricane Preparedness Week*

Kingwood

*May 4
Elm Grove Park Grand Re-Opening*

*May 5
Holy Comforter Lutheran Church's 40th Year Anniversary
Celebration*

*May 6
Kingwood Super Neighborhood Council Meeting*

*May 21
Lake Houston Area Chamber of Commerce's Third Tuesday
Luncheon honoring the Peace Officer and Firefighter of the Year*

*May 21
Kingwood PIP Meeting*

South Houston/Clear Lake

*May 2
8th Annual State of the Lake presented by the Bay Area Houston
Convention & Visitors Bureau and the Clear Lake Area Chamber of
Commerce*

*May 10 - 12
20th Annual Clear Lake Greek Festival*

*May 11
Aeros & Autos at Ellington Airport*

*May 21
Clear Lake PIP Meeting*

*May 29
Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce's General Membership
Luncheon*

June 5

Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce's "No Experience Necessary" Bowling Tournament

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City of Houston Council Member Dave Martin | 900 Bagby | Houston | TX | 77002