

# Council Member Dave Martin's District E Newsletter

Issue 9

September 2013



**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](mailto:districte@houstontx.gov)

**Allie Smart**  
Chief of Staff

**Lauren Doak**  
Director of  
Special Projects

**Kevin Zuniga**  
Council Service Liaison

**Mary Doyle**  
Council Intern

**City Contacts**

## Residents of District E,

"If Not Me, Then Who..." were the words spoken by 1st Lt. Travis Manion before leaving for his second and final deployment to Iraq. 1st Lt. Manion died in Iraq on April 29, 2007. Shortly after his death, his parents Mr. and Mrs. Manion founded the Travis Manion Foundation with a goal of honoring the fallen by challenging the living. The Travis Manion Foundation started the 9/11 Heroes Run which helps unites communities internationally with the goal to never forget the sacrifices of the heroes of September 11th and the wars since honoring veteran, first responders, civilian and military.

With 41 race locations across the country and 55 military installations internationally, the District E office is extremely honored to be home of Ellington Airport where the 3rd Annual Houston 9/11 Heroes Run will take place on Saturday, September 7th. My office has worked with the many hardworking and dedicated individuals that work tirelessly each year to put this extraordinary event together. I want to personally offer my thanks to those who contribute their time to being a part of any September 11th memorials.

The month of September always brings feelings of patriotism, honor and respect as we remember that vivid September day. There are many September 11th events like the 9/11 Heroes Run that occur across Houston and I would encourage you to volunteer your time or participate in the activities that honor the fallen.

Click [here](#) for additional information about the Travis Manion Foundation and the 9/11 Heroes Run.



"If Not Me, Then Who..." - 9/11 Heroes Run

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](#)

### [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](#)

[Clear Lake Super](#)

May we continue to memorialize those that selflessly lost their lives on that tragic day twelve years ago, and may we continue to honor those that patriotically serve our great nation today. We will never forget.

Sincerely,



Dave Martin

## Kingwood BOPA Event Scheduled

The city's Solid Waste Management Department will host a BOPA recycling event on Saturday, October 26 from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at the Kingwood Metro Park and Ride. This event is free and open to the public. Potential hazardous household items such as batteries, oil, paint and antifreeze will be collected.



- **ACCEPTED ITEMS:** Only residential waste (rechargeable household & automobile batteries, used motor oil and filters, cooking oil, LATEX paint, and antifreeze). Used motor oil will be limited to 5-gallons. All liquids are required to be in sealed, non-leaking containers. The original container with label is preferable. Repackaged items must be labeled as to contents.
- **ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED:** Business, medical, and agricultural waste will not be accepted. Oil-based paints, solvents, flammables, pesticides, herbicides and other similar hazardous materials will also not be accepted at this event.

For more information, please contact Council Member Martin's office at (832) 393-3008.

## Abatement of Dangerous Trees in Kingwood

The City of Houston announced the emergency abatement of six dangerous trees at 2007 Lake Village Drive in Kingwood's Trailwood Village neighborhood. City contractors removed these six trees on the private property on Friday and Saturday, August 16 and 17, 2013.



The dead and falling trees posed a hazard to residents, particularly for students who must walk by the property on their way to the nearby Foster Elementary School. Mayor Parker declared the abatement an emergency in order to have the trees removed before the start of the school year.

## Neighborhood



The City of Houston worked with Super Neighborhood #43 and Trailwood Village community residents to address the problem. The tree abatement project was administered by Inspections & Public Service, a division of Department of Neighborhoods, in collaboration with Houston City Council Member Dave Martin's office.

Council Member Martin thanks the Department of Neighborhoods for working with his office to get these trees removed as well as the Trailwood Village Homeowner's Association for bringing this concern to his attention.

## Dr. Guy Sconzo Recognized by Region 4 as the 2013 Superintendent of the Year

Council Member Martin congratulates Humble ISD Superintendent Dr. Guy Sconzo as he was awarded the 2013 Region 4 Superintendent of the Year last month. Region 4 ESC encompasses more than one million students in 50 school districts. There are more than 1,000 school districts in the state.



Dr. Sconzo has served as Humble ISD's Superintendent since June 2001. During his 13-year tenure as Superintendent for Humble ISD, Dr. Sconzo successfully managed the District through a time of rapid growth as enrollment increased by more than 10,000 students. He also advocated for students, proactively seeking academic programs that would address the changing needs of Humble ISD. Dr. Sconzo instituted campus visits, going to each of the District's 40 schools at least twice per year and building relationships with principals and teachers.

## HPD Captain Lampignano Retires

After more than 30 years of dedicated service to the City of Houston's Police Department, Captain Joseph Lampignano officially retired on August 17. Since 1983, Capt. Lampignano has served the department, city and most recently, Kingwood residents, willingly with unparalleled levels of service. Council Member Martin thanks the Captain for keeping the citizens of Houston safe while putting his life on the line to guard and protect us. The entire District E team wishes Captain Lampignano and his family nothing but the best in his retirement years.

## Lake Houston Family YMCA Celebrates 20 years in the Community

The Lake Houston Family YMCA opened its doors in 1993, and has since then dedicated 20 years of committed service to the communities of Atascocita, Huffman, Humble, Kingwood, New Caney, Porter



and Splendor. On August 15, the YMCA recognized the past 20 years of building strong kids, families and strong communities through their programs that focus on developing a healthy mind, body and spirit. Council Member Martin's Director of Special Projects, Lauren Doak, presented the YMCA with an official proclamation which proclaimed August 15 as the "Lake Houston Family YMCA Day" in the City of Houston.



## Lake Houston 5K/10K

Last month, Council Member Martin had the privilege of helping to kick off the Lake Houston 5K/10K presented by Memorial Hermann Northeast. Nearly 1,000 participants ran in the fourth annual race, making it one of the largest in the area uniting members from across the community.



## Kingwood Area Republican Women's Club Meeting

After a short break for summer, the Kingwood Area Republican Women's Club held their "State of the State" meeting featuring Texas Senator Tommy Williams and Representative Dan Huberty. Both Senator Williams and Representative Huberty gave an update resulting from the 83rd Legislative Session and subsequent three special sessions. Representing Council Member Martin was his Chief of Staff, Allie Smart, who works hand in hand with both legislature's offices for the good of their shared constituencies.



## Kroger Hiring Fair

Kroger will soon be opening its largest facility in all of Texas on Highway 59 and Northpark Dr. in October. The company will shortly begin the hiring process for some 300 new associates to work in the new store. The opening of the new store will potentially give a boost to the Lake Houston Area local economy by providing new jobs to area residents.



These jobs will be made available at several upcoming job fairs. All interested applicants must apply online at [www.kroger.com/careers](http://www.kroger.com/careers) prior to attending one of the upcoming job fair events. All events will be hosted at 20202 Hwy 59N Suite #360 Humble, TX 77339 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on the following dates:

- Friday September 6
- Saturday September 7
- Sunday September 8
- Friday September 13
- Saturday September 14
- Sunday September 15
- Friday September 20
- Saturday September 21
- Sunday September 22

For more information, please contact Kroger's Community Affairs Specialist, Dani Murphy-Cannella at [dani.murphy-cannella@kroger.com](mailto:dani.murphy-cannella@kroger.com).

## **Space Center Blvd. Concrete Panel Replacement**

The Space Center Boulevard concrete panel replacement project, managed by the city's Public Works and Engineering Department, began in late July and runs along Space Center Boulevard between El Dorado and Bay Area Boulevard. The work is used to repair severely cracked and broken sections of concrete streets. During this process, motorists will notice lane closures around the repair areas and are urged to drive cautiously through these active work zones.

The work is scheduled to be completed by the beginning of September 2013. For more information, please contact Council Member Dave Martin's office at (832) 393-3008.

## **Biggert-Waters Flood Act**

The Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership recently hosted a meeting with political leaders in the region, including Council Member Martin, to discuss some things that can be done to improve/change the Biggert-Waters Act. Local leaders requested assistance from Congressional representatives in delaying the implementation of the act so that a study can be done on its economic impact on the Bay Area. The Councilmember is working closely with BAHEP to come up with a list of specific changes that need to be made to the act to reduce its negative effects on the Bay Area.

In July 2012, Congress passed the Biggert-Waters Reform Act which will extend the National Flood Insurance Program for five additional years. The act includes a number of key revisions that could negatively affect the Bay Area's home and business properties. Properties that are below the base flood elevation level, which has been raised by 5 feet with the revised act, will face significantly increased flood insurance rates. Even if a property was up to code at the time it was built, the owner will no longer receive

flood insurance discounts. Grandfathered rates and almost all subsidized rates are phased out in the new version of the Biggert-Waters Act. Therefore, houses built under older codes will now not meet the new flood guidelines. The Act also redraws the flood zone maps, classifying more properties as flood risks and placing more homes in the 100 year floodplain.

The act has several potentially serious consequences for homeowners in the Bay Area. Property values may fall for homes in the floodplain and owners could find it more difficult to sell their homes because of the higher insurance rates. Home vacancy rates might rise because the owners may not be able to afford the increased rates, and owners without mortgages may simply go without flood insurance.

These negative effects could potentially impact the Bay Area's economy greatly. Lower property values means decreased tax revenue which results in less money for schools and city services and infrastructure.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Council Member Martin's office at 832-393-3008.

## Sylvan Rodriguez Park Ribbon Cutting

On Tuesday, August 6 Council Member Martin in coordination with the Houston Parks and Recreation Department and Clear Lake Lacrosse Association held a ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating the new improvements that have been made at Sylvan Rodriguez Park in Clear Lake, worth \$1 million.



Since 2008, the Houston Parks and Recreation Department has been diligently working on implementing the start of a Long Range Master Plan, designed by Clark Condon and Associates and developed strongly by input received by park users. The completed construction, worth \$1 million, include a 155 car concrete parking lot with parking lot lights, new electric service and new sports field lighting on the existing fields, construction of a new multi-purpose field west of the two existing lacrosse fields, paved sidewalk connections between the parking lot and fields, planting and irrigation and detention.

In partnership with the Clear Lake Lacrosse Association, the Houston Parks Board will also be installing an electronic score board to the two existing lacrosse fields located on the west side of the park.

Council Member Martin thanks all the community members, the Houston Parks and Recreation Department and the Mayor's Office of Special Events for making the ribbon cutting such a success and encourages area residents to take advantage of the new improvements.

## Landmark Shuttle Carrier Aircraft

## Announcement

On August 22, Council Member Martin joined in the celebration as the Boeing Company, Space Center Houston and NASA Johnson Space Center collaborated in sponsoring an event at Ellington Field to announce a new achievement in the Shuttle Transport Project. The Landmark Shuttle Carrier Aircraft, which carried the actual space shuttles to their permanent museum homes, will now be housed at Space Center Houston with an exact space shuttle replica mounted on top. The Boeing 747 Shuttle Carrier Aircraft has been a part of NASA's shuttle program for 30 years. Currently housed at Ellington Field, the historic aircraft will be transported to Space Center Houston in November. When the display is completed it will provide visitors a unique opportunity to take a realistic tour of both the shuttle carrier aircraft and the space shuttle replica. Space Center Houston is hoping that not only will this exhibit be a fascinating public attraction, it will also educate and encourage students to think about careers in engineering, technology, and science. The exhibit, entitled "The Shuttle and 747 Carrier" will be completed and open to the public in early 2015.



## Bay Area Republican Women's Club Meeting

The Bay Area Republican Women's Club reconvened in August after a summer break. Council Member Martin's Director of Special Projects, Lauren Doak, attended the luncheon to hear Harris County Clerk, Stan Stannart, speak. Clerk Stannart maintains the records of Commissioners Court, Probate Courts and County Civil Court at Law and as a recorder, maintains vital documents such as property records, marriage licenses, assumed name certificates, birth records and death records. Additionally, Clerk Stannart serves as the chief election officer of the third largest county in the United States.

## Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce Luncheon with Mayor Parker

On Wednesday, August 28, Council Member Martin attended the Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce's general membership luncheon featuring guest speaker Houston Mayor Annise Parker. Council Member Martin was honored to have the mayor in his council district for his constituents to get an update on the state of the city as well as new projects. Mayor Parker also took questions from the audience following her updates.



## Backpack Drop Off in District E

Last month, Council Member Martin had the pleasure of acquiring 280 backpacks from the Mayor's office to distribute to the school districts in District E. Humble ISD, Pasadena ISD and Clear Creek ISD all were provided with a numerous amount of backpacks that included the essential school supplies students would need for their first day of school. Council Member Martin thanks the Mayor's office for the opportunity to serve the students in his council district and wishes students across the city nothing but the best this school year.



## Texas Hurricane Conference

Council Member Martin attended and spoke at the 2013 Texas Hurricane Conference last month held at the Hilton University of Houston. The conference focused on preparedness, loss mitigation, rapid recovery, coastal protection and lessons learned related to the hurricanes and other major disasters in the Gulf Coast Region. Council Member Martin thanks Dr. Bill Merrell from Texas A&M Galveston and C. Vipulanandan from the University of Houston for the invitation to address conference attendees and give his testimony about his experience along the Gulf Coast as well as what the City of Houston does annually to prepare for hurricane season.

## Tree Waste Month

As a friendly reminder, the city of Houston's Solid Waste Management will pick up "Tree Waste" during the month of September. "Tree Waste" is defined as "clean" wood waste such as tree limbs, branches, and stumps. Lumber, furniture, and treated wood will NOT be accepted.



Junk Waste may NOT be placed for collection during a Tree Waste month.

Tree Waste months are January, March, May, July, September, and November.

Placement Instructions:

- Tree Waste should be placed adjacent to the front curb in a location easily accessible to the collection vehicle between the hours of 6:00 p.m. the Friday before and 7:00 a.m. on the scheduled collection day.
- Tree Waste should not be stacked under low overhead electrical wires or other cabling, signs, or mailboxes; next to fences or posts; or on top of water meters, gas meters, fire hydrants, or other exposed utility components.
- Materials should not be placed in the street, on the sidewalk, or other right-of-way, or in any manner which would interfere with pedestrian or vehicular traffic.



- Tree Waste collection is limited to occupied residential units and vacant residential lots only if the waste generated is in connection with the maintenance of the property.

Restrictions:

- No more than eight cubic yards of Tree Waste may be placed at the curb for collection.
- The SWMD is not allowed to collect any material that was generated by contractors who were retained by a resident to perform work on his or her residential property. It is the responsibility of the contractor to remove all debris that may arise from the contractor's activities. These contractor-related activities include, but are not limited to: trimming and removal of trees, remodeling, new construction and roofing.
- If authorized items placed for collection are mixed with unauthorized items, department personnel shall not be obligated to sort the materials and may refuse the entire load.
- Solid Waste Management Department collection services are not available to multi-residential structures of more than eight units.

## **President/CEO Named for Houston Independent Crime Lab**

The Houston Forensic Science LGC, Inc. announces the selection of Dr. Daniel Garner as its President and CEO. Dr. Garner brings a distinguished career of leading, building and improving forensic laboratories in both government and commercial environments.

Dr. Garner has most recently led the U.S. Department of Justice's efforts to improve forensic science activities in foreign countries. His work took him to more than thirty countries on five continents, where he conducted assessments of forensic laboratories, developed plans to improve their capabilities, and managed implementation of those plans.

Prior to his international work, Dr. Garner served as President of Cellmark Diagnostics, Inc., a leading commercial provider of DNA analysis services. Under Dr. Garner's leadership, Cellmark's lab became the first commercial laboratory to achieve accreditation by the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD-LAB), while at the same time reducing turnaround times and operational costs.

Before his years at Cellmark, Dr. Garner managed the forensic laboratory for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, where he similarly led their efforts to become the first federal laboratory to earn ASCLD-LAB accreditation.

The Houston Forensic Science LGC, Inc. was established by Mayor Annise Parker and the Houston City Council as an independent city-chartered organization to assume the operations of the current Houston Police Department Forensic Division. Dr. Garner's hiring follows a six-month international search led by Coleman, Lew and Associates.

## **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**

*September 20*

*Annual POW-MIA Remembrance Ceremony at City Hall*

*September 24*

*Boeing and TAME Trailblazer at City Hall*

*September 30*

*Southwest Airlines Ground Breaking at Hobby Airport*

*October 1*

*National Night Out*

*October 26*

*Emancipation Park Ground Breaking*

*11:00 - 3:00 p.m.*

### **Kingwood**

*September 17*

*Lake Houston Area Chamber of Commerce's Third Tuesday Luncheon*

*September 17*

*Kingwood PIP Meeting*

*7:00 p.m.*

*October 2*

*Lake Houston Area Chamber of Commerce's Elected Officials Reception*

*October 10*

*Kingwood Town Hall Meeting*

*6:00 - 7:30 p.m.*

### **Southeast Houston/Clear Lake**

*September 7*

*9/11 Heroes Run at Ellington Airport*

*7:30 a.m.*

*September 12*

*Clear Lake City Water Authority Board Meeting*

7:00 p.m.

September 12

Wounded Warrior Project's Clear Lake Office Grand Opening

September 17

Clear Lake PIP Meeting

7:00 p.m.

September 17

Clear Lake Area Republican's Club Meeting

6:30 p.m.

September 25

Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce General Membership Meeting

October 7

Clear Lake Town Hall Meeting

6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

October 26

Space Center Rotary's Shrimporee

[Forward this email](#)



Try it FREE today.

This email was sent to lauren.doak@houstontx.gov by [districte@houstontx.gov](mailto:districte@houstontx.gov) | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

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