



City of
BUNKER HILL VILLAGE
NEWSLETTER

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April 2021

From the Mayor

Dear Neighbors - Last April, I wrote to you sharing my thoughts regarding the COVID-19 virus. In particular, I stressed working together as a community to confidently and safely start the return to normalcy in a supportive and non-judgmental manner. And here we are one year later, continuing the recovery and again, with some residents that may want to take a slower pace to recovery while others want to take a more aggressive approach. I feel so blessed to live in this City, State and Country where each of us as individuals can make our own choices and we as a community respect each other.

I was very happy to see all Councilmembers present in person at the dais at our most recent City Council Meeting at City Hall (instead of Zoom). It is proof that our City is slowly starting to return to normal at a safe and deliberate pace. Topics at the meeting included the new well at the construction site of Bunker Hill Elementary School, emergency management policies and also, recovering from the winter storm. Construction is well underway at the elementary school and the new water well is being drilled this summer. This water well will increase capacity and continue the City's Superior Water System for decades.

Regarding the winter storm, we know we must continue to allow Mother Nature time to see what plantings may resurge. However, to keep our community beautiful, please evaluate your landscaping and ensure that some dramatic pruning, trimming and even removal, if needed, occurs prior to the summer months which will only further stress the landscaping. The City will be doing the same on city property and in the right of way along roadways. Notices will be sent with further details in the coming months.

One asset of the pandemic has been seeing so many of you (and your pets) out and about meeting neighbors while also enjoying the trails throughout our beautiful City. Along with assets, comes liabilities. Please help keep our trails beautiful by cleaning up after yourself and your pets. It is easy to properly dispose of waste in the doggie stations found all over town (we even added some new ones!). Our Public Works team has increased servicing these stations but they as well as other residents have found bags of waste lying along the trail or at the base of the doggie stations. Let's leave the trails better than when we found them. Also, for the safety of all residents, please remember to keep your pets on a leash when in public. Thank you!

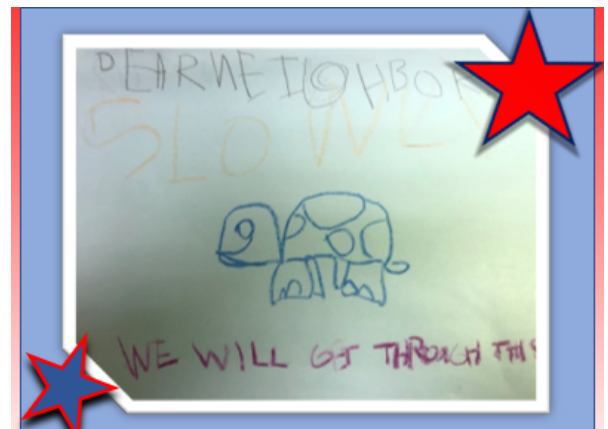
There is discussion underway and we are confident that we will have our annual Villages 4th of July parade (even if we don't hold the festival portion)! Be sure to check our website as the time gets closer.

Humbly yours, Mayor Robert P. Lord

"Hurricane Season" begins June 1st

Be Prepared

The City is working with our Public Safety Departments to gear up for Hurricane Season. Power loss and trees provide challenges with these storms. CenterPoint Energy is responsible for restoring lost service - regardless from which company provides your electricity. CenterPoint Energy will use their Outage Tracker, Twitter and Facebook to communicate. You can also sign up for "Power Outage Alerts" for your address. [See the City's Website under Latest News for emergency preparedness tips and more.](#)



Dear Residents – Your staff has learned a lot this year through the pandemic and the winter storm. We are working diligently in updating our emergency management policies and procedures and continue to work to provide responsive customer service and make City Hall 24/7 through our website. We hope you have had a chance to view our updated website which we highlighted in the last newsletter.

We have heard that some of our residents may not be as comfortable with these online services. As a result, we hope those of you will join us for a “*High Tech/LowTech*” Open House in June where our staff and summer interns will set aside time (*and computers*) to work one-on-one with residents to share this information. We hope you will feel comfortable coming to City Hall for this Open House. Feel free to call us at 713-467-9762 and set a specific time to meet if that would be better for you.

We have already started our mosquito spraying (make sure you remove any standing water around your home) and check out the Summer yard tips that we always find useful to share.

Lastly, many thanks to the Mayor and City Council for recognizing and thanking our staff members, Laurie Gantt and Valerie Cantu on Administrative Professionals Day! Long time employees, Laurie and Valerie serve as our City Hall “*first responders*” for you ... answering the phone, addressing your online requests, and keeping the office running smoothly. We also recognized our dispatchers at Memorial Villages Police Department and the Village Fire Department for National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. Many thanks to these employees who diligently work behind the scenes!!

Karen Glynn, City Administrator

“High Tech/Low Tech”

City Hall Open House

June 17, 2021

9:00 to 11:00 a.m. or 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Join Staff and the City’s Summer Interns in learning more about the City’s website and online services. We will provide one-on-one time and help you sign up for a variety of services:

- Register your alarm and be able to note any special conditions that help our public safety officers should you need us
- Sign up for an email and v-line - you will get the Chief’s Friday updates
- Set up your Water Bill for Auto Pay *
- Sign up for a House Watch while you are on vacation
- Sign up for Centerpoint’s Power Alert System *

** Bring a copy of your water and electricity bills and we will step you through the process. Bring your laptop if you have one!*



Yard Tips for the Summer

*With spring underway and summer rapidly approaching, here are some quick **DO's and DO NOT's** for your yard maintenance:*

- Adjust your irrigation systems to run in the early morning to avoid losing most of your water to evaporation.
- Install a good quality rain sensor to avoid wasting water. There are even new sensors available that measure the moisture in the ground.
- Don't over water. One inch per week is enough.
- Don't over fertilize. Yard runoff in Bunker Hill eventually makes its way to Buffalo Bayou. Excess fertilizer in Buffalo Bayou removes oxygen from the water and kills any aquatic life.
- Don't blow or sweep yard debris into the storm inlets or ditches. Again, remember everything ends up in Buffalo Bayou.