



M A R I L Y N  
E S T A T E S  
G A Z E T T E

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**President's Message**

We had a wonderful Spring Social on April 14 after having to postpone it due to severe weather. THANK YOU to Chairwoman Elizabeth Santikos, Co-chair Jennifer Costner, and their committee members for a successful event. Also, THANK YOU to all the local merchants who donated items for the raffle! See the article inside with pictures and a list of the generous area businesses.

A big announcement: We have now received the necessary approvals for the updated Deed Restrictions (2013). Former Marilyn Estates Association President Jonathan Shear deserves kudos, since he went door-to-door with me to notarize signatures on the spot. These Restrictions will be filed with Harris County and will be the new guide for keeping our subdivision a great place to live for all our residents.

After the Texas Legislature session is complete, we will put together a group to go through the Restrictions, since there are issues impacted by new laws and city ordinances since 2013.

**Speaking of going door-to-door**

In addition to having a Spring Social and getting the 2013 Deed Restrictions approved, I promised when I was elected in October 2018 that I would visit every house in our subdivision. That will begin soon, so please watch your email for a notice of when I will be headed down your block. I will coordinate with our block directors to walk with me so we can all get to know each other better.

Whether you are a new homeowner, someone who has lived here for many years, or you rent your home, we really want to visit with you. It takes everyone working together to have such a great neighborhood – and we want to keep it that way. We will have information to leave with you to make your life a little easier, so please open your door to us!

**Prepare for hurricane season**

June 1 will be here before you know it, and that means HURRICANE SEASON. While prime season is not until September, remember that Alicia and Allison both hit in June, so check your hurricane supplies NOW. There are tips listed on the Marilyn Estates website at [www.marilynestates.com/2013](http://www.marilynestates.com/2013) – go to the bottom of the home page to read "Hurricane Season Information." Be prepared and stay safe!

Happy Spring!

*CJ Yeoman*

## Security Report

We are very fortunate to continue having a low crime rate in our neighborhood, thanks to our Deputy Constables patrol. We all need to continue watching for any suspicious people and vehicles in our area, and report them as soon as possible by calling Constable Precinct 5 dispatch at 281-463-6666 to provide the location and description. In addition to having a home alarm system, law enforcement recommends installing cameras to record activity, which can be used as evidence and help lead to arrest and conviction.

You are also encouraged to utilize the Constable website at [constablepct5.com](http://constablepct5.com) to get neighborhood news and to sign up for crime alerts. You can also call Constable Precinct 5 dispatch to request vacation watch on your home. A deputy will stop by to get your information for more immediate watch. If you can give at least 5 days notice before your trip, you can do this online either by using the link in the security section of our website: <http://www.marilynestates.com/>, or at <http://www.constablepct5.com/>.

**Precinct 5 shares key crime prevention security tips to keep in mind at home. Follow these easy steps to make your home less appealing to criminals:**

1. Make sure you have sturdy metal or solid wood doors at all entries into your home, and that sliding glass and similar doors are properly secured.
2. Install and use well-made deadbolt locks (1.5-inch throw or greater) on all exterior doors.
3. Make sure all exterior doors have wide-angle viewers that can be used by everyone in the house. Install 2 viewers at different heights if necessary.
4. Light up entry doors so that you can tell who's there. Motion detector lights, flood lights, or similar lighting can help brighten up the property.
5. Trim the shrubbery around your doors and windows so crooks don't have a place to hide.
6. Instead of hiding keys around the outside of your house, give a key to a neighbor that you trust.
7. Consider an alarm. They can be a good investment, especially if you have valuables in your home.

And speaking of valuables, take pictures of your valuables including serial numbers (model numbers etc.) and upload them to a cloud. If necessary because of theft or natural disaster, you can easily give the police or insurance companies this information.

Be sure to program Constable Precinct 5 dispatch phone number **281-463-6666** into your cell phone, and notify your alarm company to have this number entered into their system, preferably as first responder.

Thanks for all of your help and awareness in fighting crime in our neighborhood.

With warmest regards,

Maury Sklar

Security Director, Marilyn Estates Association

(713) 248-2257 cell

Masklar at swbell.net (link format removed to prevent spam)



## Marilyn Estates Association Minutes: Quarterly Meeting

Monday, April 29, 2019  
Jewish Community Center

President C.J. Yeoman began the meeting at 7:33 pm. (The meeting was moved to a later time to allow for the vigil that was taking place at the JCC at 6:30 pm for the synagogue shooting in California.) Minutes were approved from the previous meeting as written.

We had two guest speakers. The first one was Gary Zika of the Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD). He discussed the history of the HCFCD and of Project Brays. Project Brays is a \$480 million project designed to reduce the risk of flood damage and benefit thousands of residents and businesses along Brays Bayou. They will be working on the Hillcroft, Chimney Rock, and S. Rice bridges over the bayou to raise them 15 inches. Hillcroft is scheduled to start in May and should be complete by the end of the year. It will take about a year each to do Chimney Rock and S. Rice.

The second speaker was Alyce Coffey of the City of Houston Solid Waste Management. She discussed do's and don'ts of recycling in the city. Glass is now accepted as long as it is jars and bottles, not the kind of glass used to make vases. Block Styrofoam that says #6 they will take at the Westpark Depository/Recycling Center. No aerosol cans. Odd months they take tree waste, and even months junk waste. For office paper, white only, not colored. No plastic bags. Please call her with any problems so she can record and report them. Her number is 713.504.7438.

### Committee Reports:

Treasurer: Robert passed out the Financial Summary for Q1 – 2019. We are getting a better rate on our CDs. Everything is status quo.

Architectural Control: Michael said that they are working on signage to place on cars so that you can tell that the car belongs there.

Maintenance: Linda said that the trees on the Braeswood median were trimmed. They also did aeration on the trees. The flowers look good. If there is anything she missed, let her know.

Security: Maury reminded everyone to call the Constable for assistance; the number is 281.463.6666. Keep cars locked with no valuables showing.

Welcoming Committee: Susan said that she sent letters to the 5 new families in March and actually touched base with 2 of them.

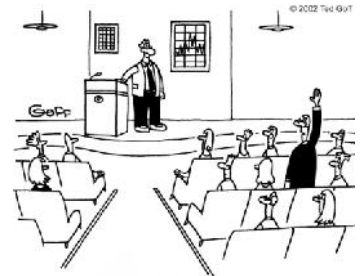
Communications: We have a new publisher. All articles, ads, and information for the Gazette should continue to be sent directly to Marge Mayer, [margemayer8008@aol.com](mailto:margemayer8008@aol.com).

**Deed Restriction Enforcement:** Linda reported that they have taken care of the problems. Thirteen written notifications have been resolved. The block directors have been a great help. Face-to-face is the best way to solve problems with the homeowners. Jonathon Shear and CJ Yeoman went around for the 15 needed approvals for the deed restrictions amendments for 2013 – 2019. After the Texas Legislature has completed its 2019 session, a committee will be appointed to look at the restrictions to see if new changes will be necessary.

**New Business:** There will be assistance from the city for Harvey-related needs. Homeowner assistance program from HUD funding is available to help Houston homeowners recovering from Hurricane Harvey. Can get help on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> from 9-6 and Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at the JCC. You can also call the Jewish Family Service for legal advice and other help.

Congressional District 7 Rep. Lizzie Pannell Fletcher wants to hear from you.

The meeting was adjourned.



"Could we extend the annual meeting? I still have a lot of complaining to do!"



## Changing of The Guard

After more than five years of publishing the Marilyn Estates Gazette, Michael Strickland has decided to step aside. But thankfully for us, the Gazette was not Michael's exclusive volunteer responsibility for Marilyn Estates. He also is a member of the Architectural Control Committee, and he will continue in that position.

Over the past years, Michael's professional skill, creativity, and patience have helped make the Gazette a high-quality and informative community newsletter. Those who are fortunate to work with Michael have benefited from his gentle teaching.

Our subdivision owes Michael a great debt for all he does for us.

We are fortunate that Elizabeth Frankowski has volunteered to take the responsibility of publishing the Gazette. Elizabeth and her husband Ralph raised their children here and have been residents of our community for almost 50 years.

## Tree and Junk Waste Pick Up

The City of Houston Tree Waste and Junk Waste Program picks up tree waste during odd-numbered months and junk waste during even-numbered months. In our neighborhood, our collection day is the second Wednesday of every month. Upcoming dates are as follows:

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*May 8 (tree waste)*

*June 12 (junk waste)*

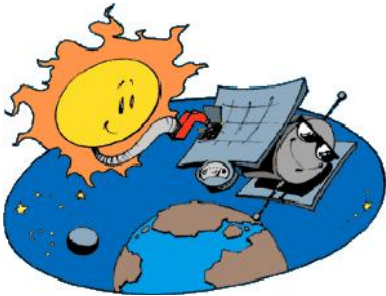
*July 10 (tree waste)*

*August 7 (junk waste)*



Please note that during tree waste months, you may not put out junk waste for collection. During junk waste months, you may put out your tree waste for collection, but to guarantee recycling of tree waste, you can hold it until the next tree waste month or take it to a recycling center.

For more information, you can visit the City's program website at <https://www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste/treewaste.html>. You can also visit [houston311.org](http://houston311.org), or call 311 or (713) 837-0311.



## Our Decision to Go Solar.

We had been contemplating the idea of putting solar panels on our home for a while, but the cost was just not there yet for me. In September of 2017, I decided to give it another shot and with the federal tax incentives, the competitive pricing, and all the other benefits that come along with it, it was time to take another look.

We decided to install the panels and have not paid an electric bill since the panels were made active. In fact, we even have a credit with our electric provider. We are reducing our carbon footprint and even providing electricity back to the grid and getting paid for it. We did swap our electric bill for a solar panel bill, but once the panels are paid for, we will be in the clear.

This is not for everyone, but if anyone would like to chat about our install and ask any questions, please feel free to reach out to me, as this is one of the best decisions we have ever made.

Gage Mueller  
zamboni411 at yahoo.com (link format removed to prevent spam)  
832.668.5791

## Treasurer's Report

By Robert Gehring

### Marilyn Estates Association Q1 – 2019 Financial Summary

	2019 Q1	2018 Q2
<b>INCOME</b>		
Security Assessment	\$87,176	\$87,646
Dues	\$25,676	\$26,181
Fees – Refinance	\$100	\$1,262
Fees – Resale Certificate	\$0	\$150
Fees - Transfer	\$400	\$1,000
Advertising	\$0	\$225
Dividend Income	\$222	\$0
Interest Income	\$385	\$0
Credit Card Fees	\$48	\$12
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$114,007</b>	<b>\$117,338</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Security	\$27,074	\$26,690
Lawn Service:		
Contractual	\$2,814	\$2,814
Flower Planting	\$0	\$0
Maintenance	\$220	\$0
Tree Project	\$6,592	\$0
Insurance	\$4,381	\$4,562
Legal Fees	\$0	\$0
Tax Preparation	\$0	\$0
Admin	\$294	\$225
Newsletter	\$0	\$18
Website	\$286	\$0
Constant Contact (email Marketing)	\$0	\$0
Socials	\$0	\$0
Bank Charges	\$0	\$0
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$41,660</b>	<b>\$34,758</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$72,347</b>	<b>\$82,581</b>
<b>BALANCE SHEET</b>		
Chase Operating Acct as of 3/31/2019	\$37,791	\$125,937
Chase Savings Acct as of 3/31/2019	\$43	\$39,025
Chase CD 13 mo. @ .25% 2/15/2019	\$0	\$43,896
Chase CD 13 mo. @ .25% 5/15/2019	\$40,799	\$40,722
BOA CD 18 mo. @ .07% 3/9/2019	\$0	\$51,988
<b>Fidelity Investment Account:</b>		
Fidelity Government Money Market Fd (SPAXX)	\$50,359	\$0
JP Morgan CD @ 2.6%, matures 116/2019	\$100,000	\$0
Wells Fargo CD @ 2.55%, matures 8/27/2020	\$70,000	\$0
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$298,991</b>	<b>\$301,568</b>

#### Account Receivable:

-57 homeowners are past due - total delinquent = \$29,433.89

-10 homeowners are past due more than 1 year

#### Home Sales:

\* 4 homes have sold in Q1 2019

\* 33 homes have sold in 2018

\* 17 total home sales in 2017

## Yards of The Quarter

Many thanks to our YOTQ Committee who diligently patrols Marilyn Estates looking for the most attractive front yards.

A friendly reminder, to qualify for YOTQ, we must be able to see your address from the street. This is primarily for safety. Should anyone need an emergency response from the constable, fire department or ambulance, time is imperative, they must be able to identify your home from their vehicles.

5402 Wigton	5539 Braeswood	9710 Burdine St.	5435 Valkeith
5502 Wigton	9730 Braesmont	9718 Checkerboard St.	5539 Valkeith
5418 Cheena	9714 Chimney Rock	5418 Queensloch	5434 Dumfries
5406 Cheena	5427 Paisley	5531 Queensloch	5519 Dumfries
5435 Lymbar	9714 Oasis	5418 Rutherglenn	5443 Yarwell
5543 Lymbar	9703 Kit	5522 Rutherglenn	5543 Yarwell
	9715 Atwell Drive		

## Welcome Committee:

In March, I delivered letters of welcome and recent copies of our Marilyn Estates Gazette to new homeowners at the following addresses: 5543 Wigton, 5542 Valkeith, 5410 Queensloch, 5511 Lymbar and 5407 Queensloch. I had responses back from two of these homeowners, Lyn Huck (5542 Valkeith) and Caitlin and Brian Zall (5511 Lymbar), who I visited and presented with a welcome bag courtesy of Marilyn Estates.

These bags include certificates from La Fresca Pizza, Belden's Grocery, gift from Avalon Insurance Agency, along with a Lowe's gift card, and a plant from Home Depot. I am in the process of obtaining additional support from Vogue Cleaners, Old Hickory Inn Barbecue, and a few other local merchants. Walgreen's is under new management and has opted not to continue participating.

It is such a pleasure to meet the newcomers to our neighborhood and a joy to see their excitement about choosing to live in Marilyn Estates!



*Susan Gubitz*  
Welcoming Committee



### Avalon Insurance Agency



9660 Hillcroft Suite 240 - Houston TX 77096 Debbie Gehring

(O) 713-283-5202 (F) 866-929-5850

[Debbie@Avaloninsuranceagency.com](mailto:Debbie@Avaloninsuranceagency.com)

As an independent insurance agent we can offer the right coverages with the personal touch you would expect from your neighborhood insurance agent. Call us for a free quote or visit our website [www.Avaloninsuranceagency.com](http://www.Avaloninsuranceagency.com)

Resident of Marilyn Estates for 40 years

## It's A Beautiful Day in The Neighborhood

By Marge Mayer

We had the most beautiful day for our annual Spring Social!

Thanks to the tireless efforts of **Elizabeth Santikos, Chair**, and **Jennifer Costner, Co-Chair**, and their committee, their planning for the Social culminated in a successful event. The myriad of details that go into planning an outdoor event are endless, and the committee also had to manage the postponement of the original date due to a severe storm prediction.

The surrounding pictures tell the story. Lots of families, many children on bikes, adults reconnecting with neighbors they haven't seen over the winter months, public officials chatting with residents, the big fire truck, food, games, and loads of prizes made this a festive gathering. Great appreciation to our neighborhood businesses for generous donations:

### BELDENS

DR. JEFFREY BUSCH

EL RANCHERO

ELITE CONCRETE SERVICES

VIOLA FIELDEN, ASTROS T-SHIRTS

FIOZA CAFÉ

GENESIS STEAKHOUSE & WINE BAR

EVELYN RUBENSTEIN JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER

MARIA OLIVA, NEIMAN MARCUS

MATTRESS FIRM

### MEYERLAND ANIMAL CLINIC

MEYERLAND CHIROPRACTIC, JEFF WEISS, D.C.

NEW YORK BAGEL SHOP

OLD HICKORY INN BARBECUE

ORION FINE JEWELRY

PARVINE ALI, RN, SaveLifeCPR

SAMEETA'S BEAUTY LOUNGE

TAPESTER'S GRILL

THE 401 TABLE & TAP

TRADER JOE'S ON SHEPHERD

YOU LUCKY DOG PET RESORT

Please take a moment to look at the pictures. We hope everyone will attend next year's Spring Social! Thanks again to our organizers, Elizabeth and Jennifer, and their committee!







Kids having Fun

**Winners of prize from Trader Joe's**



The following is the text of a News Release from the Evelyn Rubenstein Jewish Community Center dated March 20, 2019.

### **Evelyn Rubenstein JCC To Reinvest and Make Significant Renovations to Meyerland's Levit Campus**

Houston, TX– Following an overwhelming majority vote by the board of trustees of the Evelyn Rubenstein Jewish Community Center (JCC), the organization today announced that it will reinvest in and transform the Levit campus, located on S. Braeswood in Meyerland.

According to Lauren Kaufman Blachman, board chair of the Evelyn Rubenstein JCC, the decision to reinvest in the 12-acre campus was the culmination of months of discussion about the future of the facility following its significant flooding during Hurricane Harvey.

Joel Dinkin, CEO, said that an original master planning process involving significant renovations and updates to the Levit campus was interrupted by the 2017 flood, causing the JCC to “push the pause button” and pivot toward recovery, repairs and the assurance of uninterrupted programs and services for both members and the community.

“Now that the last of the achievable repairs and renovations are complete, including the installation of flood gates to protect the Evelyn Rubenstein JCC from future flooding, we are enthusiastically engaging with our leadership team and architects to create a comprehensive master plan, lay the groundwork for a capital campaign, and maximize the reinvestments that we have already made in the campus post-Harvey,” said Dinkin.

He said that visioning and planning for the improved campus will include a number of important priorities including additional protection from future flooding; accessibility improvements; security enhancements; a new indoor pool; and reimagined program spaces with more areas for gathering and socializing.

Dinkin added, “We will also explore offsite programming opportunities that truly take the ‘Community’ element of our name out into the broader Houston community.”

“The Evelyn Rubenstein JCC remains steadfast in our belief and commitment that we exist to serve as the hub of the Jewish and larger Houston community,” said Blachman. “We are very excited to both re-commit to the greater Meyerland area and plan for continued outreach throughout Houston.”

The JCC, which will stay open during renovation, will provide regular renovation updates, timelines, plans, general information and FAQs via its website and blog at [www.erjchouston.org](http://www.erjchouston.org).

The Jewish Federation of Houston, which is currently on the Levit campus, will remain on the campus.

### **New Parker Elementary and Kolter Elementary Buildings Will Enhance Our Neighborhood**

Besides the reinvestment in the JCC, we are pleased to see other reinvestment in new buildings in our neighborhood.

The recently rebuilt and re-opened Parker Elementary School is a welcome addition. Currently under construction is the new Kolter Elementary School building. Surely these schools will attract young families and keep our neighborhood vibrant.

**ALL EMAILS HAVE FORMATTING REMOVED TO PREVENT SPAM – PLEASE TYPE IN THE EMAIL YOURSELF**

## **Marilyn Estates Association Officers**

**President**, C.J. Yeoman  
713-729-8442 cjeoman at sbcglobal.net

**Vice President**, Martin Stalnaker  
713-721-2752 mstalnaker at acumenpc.com

**Treasurer**, Robert Gehring  
281-773-7135 treasuryemea at outlook.com

**Recording Secretary**, Susan Sides  
713-705-4144 susansides at earthlink.net

**Corresponding Secretary**, Martha Eaves  
713-256-3484 marthaeaves at gmail.com

**Parliamentarian**, Ed Fastow  
713-553-7399 efastow at sbcglobal.net

## **Marilyn Estates Association Committees**

### **Architectural Control**

Michael Strickland 713-961-1323 ms at michaelstrickland.com  
Nancy Hixon 713-728-9386 nshixon at att.net  
Elizabeth Frankowski 713-729-6002 elizabethfrankowski at gmail.com

### **Deed Restriction Enforcement**

Linda Miner 713-826-8077 lindaminer999 at att.net  
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Marla Cotten 832-270-7282 marlacotten at gmail.com  
Linda Maraldo 832-264-3546 lmaraldo at sbcglobal.net  
Jim Taylor 832-269-1500 j.stay at hotmail.com

### **Maintenance and Beautification**

Linda Miner 713-826-8077 lindaminer999 at att.net  
Jonathan Shear 832-689-4274 shearhouse at hotmail.com

### **Security**

Maury Sklar 713-248-2257 masklar at swbell.net  
Sheryl Sklar 713-728-8821 sherylwsklar at swbell.net  
Steve Blechman 713-723-9884 sblechman at gmail.com

### **Welcoming**

Susan Gubitz 281-630-0642 steve.gubitz at att.net

### **Communications**

Marge Mayer 713-721-1230 margemayer8008 at aol.com  
Lynn Busch 713-410-6910 lynncarol8236 at aol.com  
Nancy Hixon 713-728-9386 nshixon at att.net  
Debra Suhl 713-7724-3137 dlsuhl at me.com  
Curt Taylor 303-722-3352 curtant at hotmail.com

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## Contact Information

Marilyn Estates  
P.O. Box 35144, Houston, TX 77235  
[www.marilynestates.com/2013](http://www.marilynestates.com/2013)

Harris County Constable 281-463-6666  
For a direct link for vacation watch contact: [constablepct5.com](http://constablepct5.com)

## Marilyn Estates Association Block Directors

5400 Lymbar - Linda Miner 713-826-8077 [lindaminer999 at att.net](mailto:lindaminer999@att.net)  
5500 Lymbar - Randee Smolensky 713-729-9682 [ransmo at aol.com](mailto:ransmo@aol.com)  
5400 Cheena - **We need a volunteer for this position.**  
5500 Cheena - **We need a volunteer for this position.**  
5400 Wigton - Doug Irr 713-295-0539 [dmi2x at hotmail.com](mailto:dmi2x@hotmail.com)  
5500 Wigton - Michael Bryant 713-504-2700 [mbryant29 at gmail.com](mailto:mbryant29@gmail.com)  
5400 Yarwell - Jim Taylor 832-269-1500 [j.stay at hotmail.com](mailto:j.stay@hotmail.com)  
5500 Yarwell - Sam Musachia 713-721-7033 [sam.musachia at sbcglobal.net](mailto:sam.musachia@sbcglobal.net)  
5400 Dumfries - Elizabeth Santikos 281-788-3220 [esantikos at yahoo.com](mailto:esantikos@yahoo.com)  
5500 Dumfries - Linda Maraldo 713-729-7086 [lmaldo at sbcglobal.net](mailto:lmaldo@sbcglobal.net)  
5400 Valkeith - Janice Fastow 713-553-7399 [jfastow at sbcglobal.net](mailto:jfastow@sbcglobal.net)  
5500 Valkeith - Julie Fordes 832-969-8349 [fordes.julie at gmail.com](mailto:fordes.julie@gmail.com)  
5400 Rutherglenn - Ginger Flannery 713-723-2016 [ginflannery at yahoo.com](mailto:ginflannery@yahoo.com)  
5500 Rutherglenn - David Karesh 832-562-5519 [kareshjunk at gmail.com](mailto:kareshjunk@gmail.com)  
5400 Queensloch - Jim Taylor 832-269-1500 [j.stay at hotmail.com](mailto:j.stay@hotmail.com)  
5500 Queensloch - Mary Johnson 713-729-6392 [nanaluluinhouston at comcast.net](mailto:nanaluluinhouston@comcast.net)  
Paisley/Chimney Rock - Maury Sklar 713-728-8821 [masklar at swbell.net](mailto:masklar@swbell.net)  
Braesmont/Kit/Oasis - **We need a volunteer for this position.**  
Atwell /South Braeswood - Diane Gardner 832-876-1234 [dianenativetexan at gmail.com](mailto:dianenativetexan@gmail.com)  
Burdine/Checkerboard - Debbie Gehring 713-927-8934 [Debbie\\_g7482 at hotmail.com](mailto:Debbie_g7482@hotmail.com)

# THE END