



## EASTWOOD: FAITH & EDUCATION

THIS IS THE THIRD IN A FOUR-PART SERIES ON THE HISTORY OF THE EASTWOOD SUBDIVISION BY BILL ENGLAND.

While many subdivisions were developed in Houston during the early 1900s, the thing that set Eastwood apart from the others was Eastwood's status as a "master-planned community." William A. Wilson did not want to just build houses; he wanted to build a community, a neighborhood. His vision included land for a place for worship, an elementary school and a community park.

### Eastwood Community Church

(now Church of the Redeemer, Episcopal)

The Episcopal Diocese of Texas, led by Bishop **Quin**, wanted land in Eastwood to build a church for the families moving into the new subdivision (many of these families were parishioners of Christ Church on Texas Avenue). While William Wilson wanted religious representation in Eastwood, he did not want a collection of churches competing for parishioners in the neighborhood. The diocese assured Wilson that the Episcopal Church they would build in Eastwood would operate seven days a week and would be inclusive of all Christians. The land was sold to Christ Church (now Christ Church Cathedral) for \$3,500. The new church was called Eastwood Community Church for the first thirty years of its life. According to historical files at Redeemer Episcopal Church, "a rectory was built first, roughly where the present one (on Dallas Street) now stands. The original rectory cost \$3,800 and was built

mostly of second-hand lumber from Camp Logan (a World War I base)."

The first communion service was held on Easter Sunday, 1920 in a partially completed large room. Regular services began in the Church on the third Sunday in June, 1920. Many original residents of Eastwood described the first church as "a lovely gothic-inspired structure that was a natural centerpiece of the neighborhood." Eastwood Community Church grew steadily for the next twenty years. And as so often happens the parishioners were concerned they might outgrow the facilities of the popular church. So, after World War II, plans were started for a new, larger sanctuary.

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*Church of the Redeemer, Episcopal*

Eastwood Civic Association Meeting • March 1, 2004 • 7:30 - 8:30 pm • Cape Center

SPEAKERS: TEXAS REPRESENTATIVE RICK NORIEGA, SCHOOL FINANCE & HPD BURGLARY AND THEFT DIVISION

## 2004 PRIMARY ELECTIONS

Don't forget to vote in the Primary Elections on Tuesday, March 9, 2004. The Primaries select not only each party's nominee for President, but for many state, county, and national positions. Sample Democrat and Republican ballots are available at the Harris County voter information website, [www.harrisvotes.com](http://www.harrisvotes.com). This site will also show any changes in polling sites.

Another good resource for independent elections information is the League of Women Voters website, [www.lwvhouston.org](http://www.lwvhouston.org). The voter guide on their site contains responses to questions posed to candidates.

At press time, the polling sites for our area are: Precinct 26, Cage Elementary, 4528 Leeland and Precinct 27, Eastwood Academy, 1315 Dumble.

## CHILDREN & GUN SAFETY

Over 40% of homes with children have a gun, half of those guns are unlocked and loaded. The group Asking Saves Kids spoke at the February HPD South Central Positive Interaction Program (PIP). They emphasized that just talking to children about the dangers of firearms is not enough. Kids are naturally curious. If the gun is accessible, there is a good chance a child will find and play with it.

They recommend that all guns be stored unloaded and locked, ideally in a gun safe. Hiding guns is not enough. If kids play at a friend's house, talk to them about not playing with guns. But better yet, talk to those parents.

Our HPD Navigation Storefront officers will be at the March meeting with free gun locks. If you have a gun or if your kids play where there is one, come get a gun lock.

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While many wanted a traditional church with stained glass windows, long-time member and Eastwood resident Tom Tellepsen (Tellepsen Construction Company) wanted a building that would represent the sweeping changes of post-World War II America. The new structure, built in 1952, was based on a vision Mr. Tellepsen had in a dream. The plan was for an asymmetrical design to achieve maximum effectiveness of the limited space. At the time of its construction, the concrete building was described as the first windowless church in Houston. The church was centrally air-conditioned and the nave was illuminated with concealed fluorescent lighting.

Featured in the nave behind the altar was William Orth's mural "Christ of the Workingman." The mural took four months to complete. It was sketched, detailed and painted at the Tellepsen Construction Company Mill. (William Orth was a widely acclaimed and very successful artist whose work hangs in numerous museums, both in Europe and in the U.S. His portrait of former first lady Mamie Eisenhower hangs in the White House.)

**Eastwood School**

(now Dora B. Lantrip Elementary School)

The spirit of home and community continued with the design and development of Eastwood School. William Wilson donated the land for the school (across the street from land for Eastwood Community Church). Maurice Sullivan, then City Architect of Houston, was assigned the job of designing a building to reflect the charm of the adjoining neighborhood. (Maurice Sullivan also designed St. Anne's Catholic Church, Holy Rosary Catholic Church and the Conventual Chapel of the Villa de Matel.)

His design featured the Spanish mission style (popular at the time in Southern California), with arcaded loggias and patios. The element that connected the school to the neighborhood was that the design was arranged on the



cottage or bungalow plan with classrooms occupying a series of free-standing buildings. Each of these cottages was designed to make a child's transition from home to

## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

## EASTWOOD CIVIC ASSOCIATION BYLAWS 🌸

The Bylaw Committee of the ECA Board of Directors is currently working on revising the bylaws. The current version was last revised in 1984. Over the next few months the committee will submit their suggested changes to the membership.

## SUPERNEIGHBORHOOD MEETING 🌸

A TXDoT supervisor of design presented plans for the major rehabilitation of Wayside Drive. The seven-mile stretch from I-45 to I-10 has been authorized and funded. The project removes four to six inches of asphalt replacing it with new leveling and surface courses. It also includes some sidewalk, curb, and drainage repair and adding wheelchair-accessible ramps. The work will be done in segments. It will begin in the third quarter of 2004 and take approximately nine to twelve months. Representative Rick Noriega was at the meeting and will be working with TXDoT and will address neighborhood concerns.

school as carefree as possible, reflecting the philosophy that a school should not be an imposing institution but a house for children. Each cottage had lockers, a cloakroom and a bathroom. As early as 1913, the school board had considered a departure from the traditional one-building school in the form of a cottage plan project to complement the architecture of the new Eastwood subdivision. The kindergarten room even included a fireplace—just like the kids had at home. There is speculation that this fireplace was part of a program initiated by Miss Ima Hogg, with fireplaces also installed in schools built after Eastwood School (River Oaks, Woodrow Wilson and Poe Elementary Schools).

The two towers flanking the entrance to the main building originally were capped with open-air cupolas or domes, which have since been removed.

When the school opened in 1916, its first principal was Dora B. Lantrip. Miss Lantrip continued as principal for several decades and was considered the spirit of Eastwood Elementary School. She established a museum in the school, which she stocked with memorabilia from her many safaris, expeditions to Alaska, and trips to the Orient.

This lovely building (the oldest, in-use school in the HISD system) and lush landscaping have been featured in many architectural reviews and journals and is something we should all be very proud to have in our neighborhood. (While early city directories also show the school referred to as Eastwood School/Reagan School, no additional information has been found.)

In the final installment next month, we'll look at Eastwood during the 1950s/1960s "flight to the suburbs" and what the future holds. ☒

Ed Robinson from Neighbor Protection announced that the old hotel at Wayside and I-45 will be torn down. The old apartments on Hughes Road are in the review process to be demolished. He also told us that the City now has a new towing contract. Junk vehicles will receive notice and if the problem is not resolved, the vehicle will be towed. If you have problems with junk cars contact the HPD Navigation Storefront or Mr. Robinson to report them .

**SOUTH CENTRAL HPD PIP MEETING** 🦋

An update was provided on several projects in Neighborhood Protection. In the last 45 days, a dangerous building survey was done on 162 buildings in the east end and 409 in the third ward. Of those 59 are in the last phase to be demolished. Hearing dates will be set on March 8th. Citations were issued for 486 junk vehicles. Of those 150 complied and the others face further enforcement beginning March 5th. Under the current City budget concerns, the number of inspectors has decreased from 120 to 45. Captain Ready will continue to work with Neighborhood Protections with issues identified by residents using the blue action forms.

The Eastwood Voice is a monthly publication of the Eastwood Civic Association. If you have story ideas or comments, or our would like to help pass out copies to your neighbors, please contact us at PO Box 9542, Houston, TX 77261 or at eastwood.voice@eastwood-houston.com.

# IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Houston Police Dispatch (non-emergency)	713.884.3131
HPD South Central Substation	713.651.8100
HPD Navigation Storefront	713.238.2282
Harris Co. Constable, Prec. 6	713.923.9156
Constable Polk St. Storefront	713.921.0236
US Congressman Gene Green	713.330.0761
Texas State Senator Mario Gallegos	713.928.7575
Texas State Representative Rick Noriega	713.649.6563
City Councilwoman Carol Alvarado	713.247.2011
Graffiti Abatement	713.928.9916
Union Pacific RR National Police to report parked trains blocking streets	888.877.7267
El Centro de Corazon-Eastwood Clinic	713.926.6229
City of Houston Service Helpline	311

# HOMES FOR SALE

Have friends or relatives you want to join you in a great neighborhood setting? Here is a partial list of homes, by subdivision, listed for sale at press time. (\*new on list)

<b>Bell Place East</b>	1443 Munger
5026 Rusk	1449 Pearson
<b>Broadmoor</b>	1416 Scharpe *
1407 Elliott	1458 Scharpe *
1462 Lawson	1510 Scharpe
1510 Lawson	1524 Telephone
1518 Lawson	1528 Telephone
1561 Lombardy	

**Dissen Heights**  
5251 Jefferson

**Dixie**  
4920 Curtin  
1029 Dumble

**Eastlawn**  
1216 Gustav  
5030 Lindsay  
5022 Lindsay

**Eastview**  
5134 Bell

**Eastwood**  
4416 Bell  
4321 Jefferson  
4610 McKinney \*  
4505 Rusk  
4415 Walker


**Houston City St RR**  
3917 Rusk

**Lawndale**  
5202 Claremont  
5310 Claremont

**S. M. Williams**  
5001 Park

**Woodleigh**  
4018 Dallas

**Young Mens**  
5120 Walker



**SNAPSHOT**  
— JENNI & FRIENDS

YOU MAY NOT BE  
A DIVA WHEN  
YOU GET HERE, BUT...

2130 Jefferson  
(CORNER OF JEFFERSON & HUTCHINS)  
LOCATED IN OLD CHINATOWN/  
DOWNTOWN

**Jenni's**  
NOODLE HOUSE

**713.228.3400 • www.noodlesrule.com**  
Open everyday 11am to 11pm, closed Sunday

# CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 29	MARCH 1 7:00 ECA Board Mtg. 7:30 Civic Club Mtg. Cape Center	2	3	4 Last Day for Early Voting 6-8 Council District I CIP Meeting	5 Heavy Trash Area B	6
7	8 Heavy Trash Area A	9 PRIMARY ELECTION 6:30 SuperNeighborhd	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY	18	19	20 FIRST DAY OF SPRING
21	22	23	24	25	26 Area B Trash set out	27
28	29	30	31	APRIL 1	2 Heavy Trash Area B	3
4 PALM SUNDAY	5 7:00 ECA Board Mtg. 7:30 Civic Club Mtg. Cape Center	6	7	8	9 Area A Trash set out GOOD FRIDAY	10

Heavy Trash Area A: Second Monday, West of Lockwood (towards Cullen) and South of Telephone (towards I-45)  
 Heavy Trash Area B: First Friday, East of Lockwood (towards Wayside) and North of Telephone (towards Polk)



## EASTWOOD CIVIC ASSOCIATION



PO Box 9542 • Houston • Texas • 77261

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(Please complete and mail to the address above or hand in at the meeting.)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please list each household member on this membership, including children.)  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate up to three committees on which you would like to participate:

- Block Captain   
  Membership   
  Graffiti Abatement   
  Park Improvements   
  Animal Control  
 Deed Restrictions   
  Historical Commission   
 OTHER \_\_\_\_\_  
 Annual Membership Dues \$25.00   
  I'm not a member, but please add me to your contact list.

Our monthly newsletter, the Eastwood Voice is available at the monthly meetings and door-to-door in areas with active block captains. If you would like to have a copy mailed to you please include \$3.70 for postage. (You don't have to be a member to receive the newsletter by mail.)

Circle your subdivision

EASTWOOD ■ BROADMOOR ■ LAWNDALE ■ W. A. KIRBY ■ JACKSON COURT ■ WOODLEIGH ■ EASTLAWN ■  
 DISSSEN HEIGHTS ■ HOUSTON CITY RAILROAD ■ SUBURBAN ■ L.B. MOODY ■ BEVERLY PARK ■ EASTVIEW ■  
 HAYSER ■ DOR RUTH ■ MIVELLER ■ DIXIE ■ GEORGIA